

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

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SUBJECT: summit draft

TO: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:
Vice President Al Gore
National Summit on Africa
February 18, 2000

It is an historic moment in U.S. foreign relations when thousands of Americans gather together in the nation ,s capital to put forward a plan to improve relations and trade and understanding and cooperation between the United States and Africa. This national summit is the culmination of several years of work in earlier regional summits and proves that here in America there is a mobile and motivated national constituency for Africa that can make news, make noise, and make a difference in advancing U.S. relations with the continent of Africa. Congratulations and thank you for your diligent and enduring efforts to make the most of our self-government.

I am impressed with the breadth and sophistication of your emerging agenda. I will say more on that in a moment, and I will be eager to see your final report.

Your path-breaking efforts come not a moment too soon. We Americans have entered an age that is filled with hope and promise and unbounded opportunity, but also an age with risks, an age that will be far less forgiving of a narrow conception of our national interest than any we have seen in the past.

As we enter the 21st century, we must see America ,s security -- and world security -- through a new and wider prism. In this century we have seen wars among nations, and violence equivalent to war within nations, because of ideas of religious or racial superiority; because of lust for power; because of a sense that a location, or a region or the world itself was too small to allow for the survival and prosperity of all, unless the few could dominate the many; because of the tendency we share with other species to define ourselves as packs, and as such to fear, demonize and dehumanize other groups. We have seen how poverty) or more accurately, the collapse of hopes and dreams, can make people desperate, and open to evil leadership.

But there is something new arising in the world, something new under the sun. New forces arising that now or soon will challenge the international order, raising issues of war and peace, wealth and poverty, health and disease, order or chaos.

These new forces change completely the calculus of international engagement -- because while in an earlier age, disengaging from the world would have been thoughtless; today it is unthinkable: because today ,s threats are challenges all nations face together and no nation can solve on its own.

The global environmental challenge; the global challenge of drugs and corruption; the global threat of pandemics laying waste to whole societies; the global challenge of achieving stable economic growth, and making its prosperity felt by the least well-off among us; the global challenge of designing a fundamentally new and democratic order for acquiring knowledge and information; and perhaps most important of all: the global challenge of discovering a binding and powerful sense of human solidarity to unite us against the common threats of humanity.

In this new age and new era, one can make no honest forecast for the future of America, without taking seriously into account the future of Africa. Africa matters. To the United States and to the world. I have long believed this, and long acted upon it.

As Vice President, I have made three separate trips to North Africa, four separate trips to sub-Saharan Africa. I have supported increased engagement, greater debt relief and increased economic assistance to Africa, including for HIV/AIDS. And I have co-chaired with my friend Thabo Mbeki the U.S.-South Africa Binational Commission which, I believe it is fair to say, established the widest, deepest dialogue the United States has ever had with an African nation, and has advanced common goals in the area of the environment, economy, health, education, and public safety.

I am proud of the growing dialogue between the United States and Africa. But we must expand it. We cannot expect to learn more from Africa, until we know more about Africa.

One quarter of the world's languages are spoken only in Africa, some 1,500 languages. No other continent approaches this human diversity. Africa is the only continent to extend from the northern to the southern temperate zone, driest deserts, largest tropical rain forests, highest equatorial mountains. Humans have lived in Africa far longer than anywhere else: our most remote ancestors originated in Africa around 7 million years ago. Two of the most dramatic population movements of the past 5,000 years occurred there, including the Bantu expansion.

The great bend of the Niger River in West Africa was home to one of the first known settled agricultural communities as early as 2000 BC. Five hundred years before Christ, the Nok culture of central Nigeria began growing into one of the richest and most advanced civilizations in the region.

From 1200 to 1400, the Kingdom of Mali was known throughout the Islamic world and Europe for its wealth and power. When its ruler, Mansa Musa, was traveling through Egypt on his pilgrimage to Mecca in the early 1300s, his entourage was carrying so much precious metal that the bottom fell out of the Cairo gold market.

From the ninth to the 13th centuries a large urban society flourished at Great Zimbabwe -- in modern day Zimbabwe. They left behind massive stone structures cut and placed with such precision that Europeans -- finding the ruins centuries later -- invented historical fantasies that the Phoenicians or the Queen of Sheba had built the structures, so disinclined were they to believe that Africans, centuries earlier, had been capable of such feats of engineering.

Of course, the Slave Trade began in the middle of the 15th century to bring peoples from Western Africa to Europe as slaves. The

Portuguese, Dutch, French, and English competed to establish posts on what became known as the +slave coast , of Africa. In total, nine to ten million African slaves were shipped to the Americas at a cost beyond calculation to America and Africa. The Slave Trade ripped the economic backbone out of West Africa and tore apart the bonds of family and community for the millions taken into slavery and the millions who looked on helplessly.

Toward the end of the nineteenth century, the Colonial powers unleashed what became known as the &scramble for Africa, 8 and the Congress of Berlin in 1885 carved up the continent among the colonial powers, with national borders drawn upon maps of Africa in European capitals. And the world ,s Africa policy cared nothing for its people, but only for its sea lanes, its gems and minerals, and whatever might block access to carrying off the wealth of the continent.

And the era of the Cold War was no better, where too often African nations were used like chess pieces in a geopolitical strategy contest between capitalist and communist powers.

Today, there is a sense of promise and opportunity for Africa. As we enter this new millennium, Africa has entered the first frontiers of momentous progress. Over the past decade, a rising wave of African nations has moved from dictatorship to democracy, embraced economic reform, opened markets, privatized enterprises, stabilized currencies. Economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa has tripled, creating prospects for a higher quality of life across the continent. More than half the nations of Africa now elect their own leaders, nearly four times the number 10 years ago. Most promising of all, Africa is a young continent. The vast majority of its population is under the age of 17. With improved education and expanding access to knowledge and information, this is a new generation that will intensify the struggle for freedom, equality, and prosperity. This is a new generation of African youth for whom democracy and freedom are a given. It is what they know and expect. The case could not be more clear. We must actively and energetic engage the nations of Africa in united pursuit of common interests. This is not simply a call to do business with Africa, to promote development in Africa, or to manage or minimize threats from Africa -- but to learn from Africa -- and with Africa.

Cynics -- and some still stuck in the foreign policy of the past, may ask: What does America, the world ,s greatest military and economic power, have to learn from and with Africa?

I say first that the measure of societies and civilizations is not the power of its arms or the strength of its economy, but the depth of its values and the size of its promise. I say the world had been wise, it would have taken from Africa not its valuables, but its values. Dignity, Family, Community. These are the core values that distinguish so many of the multitudinous of cultures of Africa. Among the Ashanti, Yoruba, Hausa, Kikuyu, Masai, Xhosa. And these are the values that we must reaffirm locally and globally if we are to meet the challenges of the new century.

It is common practice in Africa for a young man ,s tuition to school to be paid not by his mother and father only, but by a dozen adults in his extended family. It is common practice in Africa for many communities to have coming of age celebrations where the whole community comes to support the teenagers as they assume adulthood. It is common practice in Africa to extend extraordinary respect and deference to one ,s elders. And it is common practice to greet children with uncommon affection. AIDS has torn its way through Africa and only in the last few years has the problem of

orphans become highly visible. Because only now has the crisis begun to overwhelm the social structures in Africa where children are instantly taken in at the death of a parent, because no child is an orphan.

We must not only learn from Africa. We must learn with Africa. We have been doing this throughout the last century. WEB DuBois, who was born in America, died in Africa and inspired people on both continents, had predicted that the last century would be defined by the struggle against racism and colonialism. He was involved in the founding of the NAACP in 1909, and that helped serve as a model for the founding of the ANC in 1912. And the movement in Africa and in the United States shared tactics, and ideals, and inspiration.

But still we face a common challenge: How do we eliminate racism? How do we create opportunity for people who have been long denied it? For U.S. it is a minority part of the population; in Africa majority part of the population, but in both countries an indispensable part of the population. At the inaugural meeting of the U.S. South Africa Binational Commission, Thabo Mbeki said: &Having done together the things that gave birth to our non-racial democracy ... [we must next build a] non-racial world. 8 &There can be a manner of interaction, 8 he said, &such that those who have more...can share in a way that can produce a better world for all. 8

this is an area where we -- on both sides of the Atlantic -- we can be proud of our progress, but never satisfied. Our efforts to help Africa improve the quality of life for its people will range widely, and I want to commend the delegates at the National Summit for stating clearly and unequivocally that stability is not possible in the face of massive international economic and social disparities. I also want to acknowledge the breadth and sophistication of the agenda you are putting together.

Let me outline, very briefly, several areas of U.S.-Africa joint action that must be the focus of enduring efforts in the years ahead:

Fighting AIDS: As many of you know, I was honored last month to chair the millennium's first meeting of the United Nations Security Council -- the first ever meeting devoted to the discussion of a health issue. I announced the second \$100 million increase in the fight against global AIDS in two years, and a series of other actions and initiatives designed to hit back at the scourge that is causing such grief, misery, and poverty in Africa and elsewhere.

Expand Trade and Investment: As you also know, I am a strong supporter of the African Growth and Opportunity Act, as you are, and as is -- unanimously -- the African Diplomatic Corps. I will work hard to see it pass. I will work hard to find additional opportunities to increase trade and investment with Africa.

Expand Debt Relief: I think one of the most important efforts we can undertake to support democracy and economic growth in Africa is to extend debt relief (and encourage other creditors to extend debt relief) to help new democracies climb out of the debt dug for them by past dictators. It is the right thing to do -- financially, economically, morally.

Peacekeeping: I strongly support efforts to bring new partners into the African Crisis Response Initiative to support their training for humanitarian and peacekeeping challenges in Africa and around the world. I also support continued U.S. efforts in conflict resolution.

Education: I strongly support giving millions more African young people access to the technology and information that will give them the education they need to compete in the global economy.

Support democracy: I wholeheartedly support efforts to build and strengthen the stable, democratic institutions that will allow the core African values of dignity, family, and community to flourish and make themselves felt in the lives of all Africans.

It is an historic irony, I believe, that at this time of greatest technological triumph, our survival and progress depends more and more on our values and our ability to use our newest technology in the service of our oldest values.

Maybe, just maybe, the threats arising from the use of our newest technology will move us back to the safety of our oldest values -- the values of dignity, family, community. We have never fully mastered these values before, but progress has never demanded it before, and it does now. This is, as historians say, an Aopen moment@ -- when all nations who seek a newer world can begin acting like a family that shares the same values, the same children, the same earth, the same future.

-- so that we may not fall apart, but come together; so that we may not perish, but flourish. Courage, foresight, and freedom can come together in a moment of choice to change our world. Let us seize this moment of extraordinary promise for human growth, and choose wisely what we know our children deserve.

It is time to change the way we live together on this planet.

Ten years ago last week, early on a Sunday morning -- Washington time -- I remember watching Nelson Mandela walk out of his cell on Robben Island. Only my son was awake with me. He was six years old, then. And I remember at that age how often a parent has the burden of answering the infinite series of &Whys? 8 from their children. Why do people hurt other people? Why is there war? Why is there prejudice and hatred? But on that day, what joy there was for me in answering his &why, dad? 8 questions. To which I could respond with overflowing joy, this, son, shows that we human beings are capable of much more than we often settle for. We ,re capable of making our dreams come true.

Last fouth of July, I became a grandfather for the first time. My grandson, far sooner than we imagine, will begin quizzing his parents & why? 8 &Why is the world that way? 8 I look forward to a world when they will answer, when all parents will answer: because, my child, we have finally learned to live in peace; we have finally learned to share prosperity; we have finally learned to embrace diversity and overcome difference.

Thank you.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:16-FEB-2000 17:02:57.00

SUBJECT: early draft of Africa speech

TO: Kenneth S. Baer (CN=Kenneth S. Baer/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jeffrey K. Nussbaum (CN=Jeffrey K. Nussbaum/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Vice President Al Gore
National Summit on Africa
February 18, 2000
DRAFT WEDNESDAY 3 PM

It is an historic moment in U.S. foreign relations when thousands of Americans gather together in the nation's capital to put forward a plan to improve understanding and cooperation between the United States and Africa. This national summit is the culmination of several years work and proves that here in America there is a mobile and motivated national constituency for Africa. A constituency that can make news, make noise, and make a difference in shaping our Africa policy. I particularly want to acknowledge the breadth and sophistication of the agenda you will put forward, and I want to commend the delegates for stating so clearly and unequivocally that international stability is not possible in the face of massive economic and social disparities.

Your path-breaking efforts come not a moment too soon. We Americans have entered an age that is filled with hope and promise and boundless opportunity. But we have also entered an age with risks, an age that will be far less forgiving of narrow notions of our national interest than any we have seen in the past.

As we enter the 21st century, we must see America's security -- and world security -- through a new and wider prism. In the past century we have seen wars among nations, and wars within nations) because of the false conceit of religious or racial superiority; because of lust for power; because of a sense that a location, or a region or the world itself was too small to allow for the survival and prosperity of all, unless the few could dominate the many; because of the tendency we share with other species to define ourselves as packs, and as such to fear, demonize and dehumanize other groups. We have seen how poverty) or more accurately, the collapse of hopes and dreams, can make people desperate, and open to evil leadership.

Amidst all these ancient threats, there is something new under the sun. New forces arising that now or soon will challenge the international order, raising issues of war and peace, wealth and poverty, health and disease, order or chaos.

These new forces change completely the calculus of international engagement -- because while in an earlier age, disengaging from the world would have been thoughtless; today it is unthinkable: because today's threats are challenges all nations face together and no nation can solve on its own.

The global environmental challenge; the global challenge of fighting drugs and crime and corruption; the global threat of pandemics laying waste to whole societies; the global challenge of economic growth, and making its prosperity felt by the least well-off; the global challenge of designing a fundamentally new and democratic order for acquiring knowledge; and underlying them all: the global challenge of discovering a binding and powerful sense of human solidarity to unite us against the common threats of humanity.

In this new era, amidst all these common challenges, one can make no honest forecast of the future for America, without taking seriously into account the future of Africa. Africa matters. To the United States and to the world. I have long believed this, and long acted upon it.

As Vice President, I have made three separate visits to North Africa. I have made four separate trips to sub-Saharan Africa. I have supported increased engagement with Africa; greater debt relief and increased economic assistance, including for HIV/AIDS. I have co-chaired with my friend Thabo Mbeki the U.S.-South Africa Binational Commission which, I believe it is fair to say, established the widest, deepest dialogue the United States has ever had with an African nation, and has advanced common goals in the area of the environment, economy, health, education, and public safety.

I am proud of the growing dialogue between the United States and Africa. But I am not satisfied. We must expand it. And that means, for our dialogue to bear fruit, we must learn more about Africa, to overcome the negative stereotypes that can sabotage our success.

As many as three thousand ethnic groups inhabit Africa, speaking some 1,500 languages, one quarter of all the languages spoken in the world. No other continent approaches this human diversity. No other continent boasts Africa's diversity of habitat -- from deserts, to tropical rainforests, to the highest equatorial mountains. Humans have lived in Africa longer than anywhere else: our most remote ancestors originated in Africa around 7 million years ago and Africa was the sole cradle of human evolution for millions of years.

The great bend of the Niger River in West Africa was home to one of the first known settled agricultural communities, and has been a center of West African civilization for 4000 years. Five hundred years before Christ, the Nok culture of central Nigeria began growing into one of the richest and most advanced civilizations in the region.

From the ninth to the 13th centuries a large urban society flourished at Great Zimbabwe -- in modern day Zimbabwe. They left behind massive stone structures cut and placed with such precision that Europeans -- finding the ruins centuries later -- invented historical fantasies that the Phoenicians or the Queen of Sheba had built the structures, so disinclined were they to believe that Africans, centuries earlier, had been capable of such feats of engineering.

From 1200 to 1400, the Kingdom of Mali was known throughout the Islamic world and Europe for its wealth and power. When its ruler, Mansa Musa, was traveling through Egypt on his pilgrimage to Mecca in the early 1300s, his entourage was carrying so much precious metal that the bottom fell out of the Cairo gold market.

Of course, all civilizations are vulnerable to the force of arms, and as early as the 1400s, European powers began plundering not just Africa's natural resources, but its human resources. By 1700, the Portuguese, Dutch, French, and English competed to establish posts on what became known as the "slave coast" of Africa. In total, nine to ten million African slaves were shipped to the Americas at a cost beyond calculation to Africa and ultimately, to America. The slave trade ripped the economic backbone out of Africa and tore apart the bonds of community for the millions taken into slavery -- and the millions more who saw their loved ones led away in the chains of slave traders.

Toward the end of the nineteenth century, the Colonial powers unleashed what became known as the "scramble for Africa," and the Congress of Berlin in 1885 carved up the continent among the colonial powers, with national borders drawn upon maps of Africa in European capitals. And the world's Africa policy continued to ignore the African people, concerned only over Africa's sea lanes, its gems and minerals, and anything that might block efforts to carry off the wealth of the continent.

The era of the Cold War was no better, where many African nations were seen only for the value as chess pieces in a strategic contest between the superpowers.

Everything Africa has achieved today, it has achieved in spite of centuries of persistent persecution and plundering by outside powers.

Today, finally, we know better, and we must do better. We cannot achieve a prosperous world at peace in the next century without an active and engaged effort to recognize and encourage the promise of Africa.

Let me outline, very briefly, several areas of U.S.-Africa joint action that must be the focus of enduring efforts in the years ahead.

Fighting AIDS: As many of you know, I was honored last month to chair the United Nations Security Council's historic meeting on AIDS -- the first Security Council meeting of the millennium, and the first ever devoted to the discussion of a health issue. There I announced our second successive \$100 million increase in the fight against global AIDS, and a series of actions and initiatives designed to hit back at the scourge that is causing such grief, misery, and poverty in Africa and elsewhere. We must intensify our struggle against AIDS, or it will undercut every instance of progress on the continent.

Trade and Investment: As you also know, I am a strong supporter of the African Growth and Opportunity Act, as you are, and as is -- unanimously -- the African Diplomatic Corps. I will work hard to see it pass. I will work hard to find additional opportunities to increase trade and investment with Africa.

Debt Relief: I think one of the most important efforts we can undertake to support democracy and economic growth in Africa is to extend debt relief (and encourage other creditors to extend debt relief) to help new democracies climb out of the debt dug for them by past dictators. It is the right thing to do -- economically, strategically, morally.

Peacekeeping: I strongly support efforts to bring new partners into the African Crisis Response Initiative to support their training for humanitarian and peacekeeping challenges in Africa and around the world. I also support continued U.S. efforts in conflict resolution in Africa and elsewhere.

Education: I strongly support giving millions more African young people the education they need to compete in the global economy. That includes greater efforts to link Africa to the Internet and give young students and entrepreneurs the educational and commercial advantages that come with it.

Support democracy: I wholeheartedly support efforts to build and strengthen democracy in Africa) not just by holding elections, but by establishing rule of law and building the democratic institutions that help create opportunity, prevent conflict, and achieve justice for all.

It is not enough to articulate these goals. We must actively and energetically work with the nations of Africa in united pursuit of our common interests. This is not simply a call to do business with Africa, to promote development in Africa, or to manage or minimize threats from Africa -- but to learn from Africa.

Cynics still stuck in the foreign policy of the past, may ask: What does America, the world's greatest military and economic power, have to learn from Africa?

I say we have been learning from Africa for years. WEB DuBois, who was born in America, died in Africa and inspired people on both continents, had predicted that the last century would be defined by the struggle against racism and colonialism. He was involved in the founding of the NAACP in 1909, and that helped serve as a model for the founding of the African National Congress in 1912. Throughout the last century, these freedom movements in Africa and in the United States shared tactics, and ideals, and inspiration with one another.

In this new century, we still face a common challenge: How do we work together to eliminate racism and ethnic hatred? How do we overcome its economic and social effects? How do we create opportunity for people who have been long denied? In the United States, it is a minority of the population; in Africa a majority of the population, but in both countries an indispensable part of the population. We must learn from each other as we work to address this.

Even in the face of the obvious) emerging security threats; common challenges; our mutual need to address economic disparity -- some cynics stuck in the foreign policy of the past say America has no interests in Africa. I say America has compelling interests in Africa, and we will fight for a foreign policy that protects those interests, advances our values, reaches out to Africa and lifts up America. I say we must not only continue our work with Africa, but expand our work with Africa) and broaden and deepen and widen the minds of those who would stand in our way. The cynics can ,t stop us now.

We are in a new era. Over the past decade, a rising wave of African nations has moved from dictatorship to democracy, embraced economic reform, opened markets, privatized enterprises, stabilized currencies. The cynics can ,t stop us now.

Economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa has tripled, creating prospects for a higher quality of life across the continent. The cynics can ,t stop us now.

More than half the nations of Africa now elect their own leaders, nearly four times the number 10 years ago. The cynics can ,t stop us now.

Africa is filled with youth. The majority of its population is under 17. With improved education and expanding access to knowledge and information, this generation will intensify the struggle for freedom, equality, and prosperity. The cynics can't stop us now.

Africa is a land of opportunity) marked not by the weight of its arms or the state of its wealth, but the power of its values and the depth of its promise.

If the world had been wiser these past centuries; it would have taken from Africa not its valuables, but its values. Dignity, Family, Community. These are the core values that distinguish so many of the multitudinous of cultures of Africa) among the Ashanti, Yoruba, Hausa, Kikuyu, Masai, Xhosa.

It is common practice in Africa for a young person ,s school tuition to be paid not by his mother and father only, but by a dozen adults in his extended family. It is common practice in Africa for many communities to have coming-of-age celebrations where the whole community comes to support the teenagers as they assume adulthood. It is common practice in Africa to extend extraordinary respect and deference to one ,s elders to honor the wisdom that comes from experience. Indeed, one African proverb says: &When an elder dies, it is as if a whole library had burned down. 8 And it is common practice in Africa to greet children with uncommon affection. AIDS has torn open the heart of Africa and left millions of orphans. But only in the last few years has the problem of orphans become visible around the world. Because only now has the crisis begun to overwhelm the family and social structures in Africa where children who lose their parents are instantly taken in, and no child is ever an orphan.

We need to learn and plant and nurture these values here in America; and we need to build the institutions and economies that allow these traditional values to flourish in Africa.

This is, as historians say, an open moment. Courage, foresight, and freedom can come together in a moment of choice to change our world) if all nations who seek a newer world begin acting like a family that shares the same values, the same children, the same earth, the same future.

It is time to change the way we live together on this planet.

Ten years ago last week, early on a Sunday morning -- Washington time -- I sat in wonder and watched Nelson Mandela walk out of his cell on Robben Island, free at last. Free at last. Only my son was there awake with me. He was six years old. And I remember thinking then how often a parent has the burden of answering the infinite series of &Whys? 8 from their children. Why do people hurt other people? Why is there war? Why is there prejudice and hatred? But on that day, as he asked me &why, dad? 8) I responded with overflowing joy: &this, son, shows that we human beings are capable of much more than we settle for. We can make our dreams come true. 8

Last summer, Tipper and I became grandparents for the first time) a grandson, born on the fourth of July. And my mind looked out on the horizon he will inhabit. Far sooner than we imagine, he will begin quizzing his parents &why? 8 &Why is the world that way, mom? 8 &Why do people act that way, dad? 8 I look forward to a world when they can answer, when you can answer, when all parents can answer: &Why do people

act that way? (... Because, my child, we have finally learned to live in peace; we have finally learned to share prosperity; we have finally learned to embrace diversity; we have finally learned to respect difference. Because, my child, we have finally overcome. 8

Thank you. God bless you, and God bless our partners in Africa.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Alejandro G. Cabrera (CN=Alejandro G. Cabrera/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:17-FEB-2000 13:22:50.00

SUBJECT: remarks of the President at opening of Africa Summit

TO: vegad@dnc.democrats.org (vegad@dnc.democrats.org @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

----- Forwarded by Alejandro G. Cabrera/OVP on 02/17/2000
01:22 PM -----

Margaret M. Suntum@EOP

02/17/2000 12:59:18 PM

Record Type: Record

To: See the distribution list at the bottom of this message

cc:

Subject:remarks of the President at opening of Africa Summit

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

Immediate Release

February 17, 2000

For

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT

TO OPENING OF NATIONAL SUMMIT ON AFRICA

Washington Convention Center

Washington, D.C.

10:50 A.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very, very much. It's a wonderful thing to be introduced by an old friend. Old friends and people you have appointed to office will tell false, good stories about you every time. (Laughter.)

Africa never had a better friend in America than Andrew Young, and I thank him. (Applause.) I want to say I'm honored to be in the presence today of so many distinguished Africans. Secretary Salim, thank you for your visionary remarks and your leadership. President Moi, thank you for coming to the United States and for giving me another chance to visit with you and for the work we have done together. Vice President Abubakar, thank you for what you are doing in Nigeria to give that great country its

true promise at long last. We thank you, sir. (Applause.)

I welcome all our distinguished guests from Africa: Mrs. Taylor, foreign ministers, ambassadors. I thank all the Americans who are here, beginning with Andy's wife, who puts up with this relentless travel of his around Africa. Mayor Williams, thank you for welcoming us to Washington. There are three members of our Congress here today representing what I hope will be a stronger and stronger bipartisan commitment to the future of Africa: Congressman Royce and Congresswoman Barbara Lee and Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, I thank you for being here. (Applause.)

I want to thank Leonard Robinson and Herschelle Challenor and all the people responsible for this remarkable conference. Thank you, Noah Samara and thank you, Bishop Ricard, for being here. And I want to say a special word of appreciation to all the people in our administration who have worked so hard to give us an Africa policy that we can be proud of, that I hope will light up the path for America's future.

I know that Secretary Slater has already spoken here. Our AID Director, Brady Anderson, will speak. Our Vice President will be here. You said, Secretary Salim, you hope future administrations will follow our lead in Africa. I know one that would. (Laughter and applause.)

I want to thank Susan Rice at the State Department, Sandy Berger, Gayle Smith, all the people in our White House, all the ones who have helped us here. (Applause.)

Secretary Salim said Africa lacks a strong constituency in the United States. Well, I open this National Summit on Africa with a simple message: Africa does matter to the United States. (Applause.)

Of whatever background Americans claim -- Leonard Robinson told me when I came here, we even have 17 delegates from Utah here. There they are, you see? (Laughter and applause.) Africa matters not simply because 30 million Americans trace their heritage to Africa, though that is profoundly important. (Applause.) Not simply because we have a strong interest in a stable and prosperous Africa -- though 13 percent of our oil comes from Africa, and there are 700 million producers and consumers in sub-Saharan Africa, though that is important. Africa's future matters because the 21st century world has been transformed, and our views and actions must be transformed accordingly.

For most of history, the central reality in international relations was that size and location matter most. If you were a big country or on a trade or invasion route, you mattered. If not, you are marginalized. The average American child growing up in the past saw African nations as colorful flags and exotic names on a map, perhaps read books about the wonderful animals and great adventures. When colonialism ended, the colors on the flags were changed and there were more names on the map. But the countries did not seem nearer to most Americans.

That has all changed now. For the central reality of our time is globalization. It is tearing down barriers between nations and people; knowledge, contact and trade across borders within and between every continent are exploding. And all this globalization is also, as the barriers come down, making us more vulnerable to one another's problems: to the shock of economic turmoil, to the spread of conflict, to pollution and, as we have painfully seen, to disease; the terrorists, the drug traffickers, the criminals who can also take advantage of new technologies

and globalization, the openness of societies and borders.

Globalization means we know more about one another than ever before. You may see the Discovery Channel in Africa. I was thinking of that when that little film was on. The Discovery Channel followed me to Africa and talked about how they were building communications networks in African schools to share knowledge and information. We can find out within seconds now what the weather is in Nairobi, how a referendum turned out in Zimbabwe, how Cameroon's indomitable Lions performed in the latest soccer match. (Laughter and applause.) We can go online and read the Addis Tribune, the Mirror of Ghana, the East African, or dozens of other African newspapers. We sit in front of a television and watch people in a South African township line up to vote.

We also, now, bear witness to the slaughter of innocents in Rwanda, or the ravages of AIDS in scores of lands, or the painful coincidence of remarkable growth and abject poverty in nation after nation. In other words, it is no longer an option for us to choose not to know about the triumphs and the trials of the people with whom we share this small planet. Not just America and Africa; I would imagine millions of Africans identified with the Muslims of Kosovo when they were run out of their country, all of them at one time. We know about each other; we can no longer choose not to know. We can only choose not to act, or to act. (Applause.)

In this world, we can be indifferent or we can make a difference. America must choose, when it comes to Africa, to make a difference. (Applause.) Because we want to live in a world which is not dominated by a division of people who live on the cutting edge of a new economy and others who live on the bare edge of survival, we must be involved in Africa. Because we want to broaden global growth and expand markets for our own people, we must be involved in Africa. Because we want to build a world in which our security is not threatened by the spread of armed conflict, in which bitter ethnic and religious differences are resolved by the force of argument, not the force of arms, we must be involved in Africa.

Because we want to build a world where terrorists and criminals have no place to hide, and where those who wish harm to ordinary people cannot acquire the means to do them harm, we must be involved in Africa. Because we want to build a world in which we can harness our natural resources for economic growth without destroying the environment, so that future generations will also have the chance to do the same, we must be involved in Africa. (Applause.)

That is why I set out in 1993, at the beginning of my presidency, to build new ties between the United States and Africa; why we had the first White House conference, the ministerial and that wonderful trip in the spring of 1998, that I will remember for the rest of my life. (Applause.)

I went to Africa as a friend, to create a partnership. And we have made significant progress. There are challenges that are profound, but in the last two years we have seen thousands of triumphs large and small. Often, they don't make the headlines because the slow, steady progress of democracy and prosperity is not the stuff of headlines.

But, for example, I wish every American knew that last year the world's fastest-growing economy was Mozambique. Botswana was second, Angola fourth. (Applause.) I wish every American knew that and

understood that that potential is in every African nation. It would make a difference. We must know these things about one another.

People know all about Africa's conflicts, but how many know that thousands of African soldiers are trying to end those conflicts as peacekeepers -- and that Nigeria alone, amidst all its difficulties, has spent \$10 billion in these peacekeeping efforts? (Applause.)

For years, Africa's wealthiest country, South Africa, and its most populous, Nigeria, cast long, forbidding shadows across the continent. Last year, South Africa's remarkable turnaround continued as its people transferred power from one elected president to another. Nigeria inaugurated a democratically elected president for the first time in decades. It is working to ensure that its wealth strengthens its people, not their oppressors. These are good news stories. They may not be in the headlines, but they should be in our hearts and our minds as we think of the future. (Applause.)

No one here, no one in our government, is under any illusions. There is still a lot of work to be done. Hardly anyone disagrees about what is needed: genuine democracy, good government, open markets, sustained investment in education and health and the environment -- and more than anything, widespread peace. All depend, fundamentally and first, on African leadership. (Applause.) These things cannot be imported, and they certainly cannot be imposed from outside.

But we must also face a clear reality: even countries making the right policy choices still have to struggle to deliver for their people. Each African government has to walk down its own road to reform and renewal. But it is a hard road. And those of us who are in a position to do so must do our part to smooth that road, to remove some of the larger barriers, so that Africa can fully share in the benefits and the responsibilities of globalization.

I tell the American people all the time, and they're probably tired of hearing it now, that I have a very simple political philosophy: everybody counts, everybody has a role to play, everybody deserves a chance. And we all do better when we help each other. That is a rule we ought to follow with Africa. (Applause.)

There are five steps in particular I believe we must take. First, we must build an open world trading system which will benefit Africa alongside every other region in the world. (Applause.) Open markets are indispensable to raising living standards. From the 1970s to the 1990s, developing countries that chose trade grew at least twice as fast as those that chose not to open to the world.

Now, there are some who doubt that the poorest countries will benefit if we continue to open markets, but they should ask themselves: what will happen to workers in South Africa and Kenya without the jobs that come from selling the fruit of their labors abroad? What will happen to farmers in Zimbabwe and Ghana if protectionist farm subsidies make it impossible for them to sell beyond their borders?

Trade must not be a race to the bottom, whether we're talking about child labor, harsh working conditions or environmental degradation. But neither can we use fear to keep the poorest part of the global community stuck at the bottom forever. Africa has already taken important steps, forming regional trade blocks like ECOWAS, the East Africa Community, and SADC. But we can do more. That is why our Overseas

Private Investment Corporation in Africa is working to support three times as many business projects in 1999 than it did in 1998, to create jobs for Africans and, yes, for Americans as well. That is why we are working with African nations to develop the institutions to sustain future growth -- from efficient telecommunications to the financial sector.

And that is why, as soon as possible, we must enact in our Congress the bipartisan Africa Growth and Opportunity Act. (Applause.) This bill has passed in one version in our House and another version in our Senate. I urge the Congress to resolve the differences and send me a bill for signature by next month. (Applause.) And I ask every one of you here who just clapped -- and those who didn't, but sympathize with the clapped -- (laughter) -- to contact anyone you know in the United States Congress and ask them to do this. This is a job that needs to be done. (Applause.)

We must also realize that trade alone cannot conquer poverty or build a partnership we need. For that reason, a second step we must take is to continue the work now underway to provide debt relief to African nations committed to sound policies. (Applause.) Struggling democratic governments should not have to choose between feeding and educating their children and paying interest on a debt. (Applause.) Last March, I suggested a way we could expand debt relief for the world's poorest and most indebted countries, most of which are African, and ensure the resources would be used to improve economic opportunity for ordinary African citizens. Our G-7 partners embraced that plan.

Still, I felt we should do more. So in September, I announced that we would completely write off all the debts owed to us by the countries that qualified for the G-7 program -- as many as 27 African nations in all. The first countries, including Uganda and Mauritania, have begun to receive the benefits. Mozambique, Benin, Senegal and Tanzania are expected to receive benefits soon. Mozambique's debt is expected to go down by more than \$3 billion. The money saved will be twice the health budget -- twice the health budget -- in a country where children are more likely to die before the age of five than they are to go on to secondary school.

Last year, I asked Congress for \$970 million for debt relief. Many of you helped to persuade our Congress to appropriate a big share of that. Keep in mind, this is a program religious leaders say is a moral imperative, and leading economists say is a practical imperative. It's not so often that you get the religious leaders and the economists telling us that good business is good morals. (Applause.) It's probably always true, but they don't say it all that often. (Laughter.) We must finish the job this year; we must continue this work to provide aggressive debt relief to the countries that are doing the right thing, that will take the money and reinvest it in their people and their future. I ask you, especially the Americans in this audience, if you believe in what brought you here, help us to continue this important effort. (Applause.)

A third step we must take is to give better and deeper support to African education. Literacy is crucial -- to economic growth, to health, to democracy, to securing the benefits of globalization. Sub-Saharan Africa has the developing world's lowest school enrollment rate. In Zambia, over half the schoolchildren lack a simple notebook. In rural parts of Tanzania, there is one textbook for every 20 children. That's why I proposed in our budget to increase by more than 50 percent the assistance we provide to developing countries to improve basic education, targeting areas where child labor is prevalent. I ask other nations to

join us in this. (Applause.)

I'll never forget the schools I visited on my trip to Africa -- the bright lights in the eyes of the children, how intelligent they were, how eager they were. It is wrong for them to have to look at maps of nations that no longer exist, without maps of nations in their own continent that do exist. It is wrong for them to be deprived the same opportunities to learn that our young people have here. If intelligence is equally distributed throughout the human race -- and I believe it is -- then every child in the human race ought to have a chance to develop his or her intelligence in every country in the world. (Applause.)

A fourth step we must take is to fight the terrible diseases that have afflicted so many millions of Africans, especially AIDS and also TB and malaria. Last year, ten times as many people died of AIDS in Africa as were killed in all the continent's wars combined. It will soon double child mortality and reduce life expectancy by 20 years.

You all laughed when Andy Young said that I was going to get out of the presidency as a young man. Depending on the day, I sometimes feel young or I feel that I'm the oldest man my age in America. (Laughter.) The life expectancy in this country has gone from 47 to 77 in the 20th century. An American who lives to be 65 has a life expectancy in excess of 82 years. AIDS is going to reduce the life expectancy in Africa by 20 years. And even that understates the problem, because the people that escape it will live longer lives as African economies grow and strengthen.

The worst burden in life any adult can bear is to see a child die before you. The worst problem in Africa now is that so many of these children with AIDS have also already lost their parents. We must do something about this. In Africa there are companies that are hiring two employees for every job on the assumption that one of them will die. This is a humanitarian issue, a political issue and an economic issue.

Last month, Vice President Gore opened the first-ever United Nations Security Council session on health issues, on a health issue, by addressing the AIDS crisis in Africa. I've asked Congress for another \$100 million to fight the epidemic, bringing our total to \$325 million. I've asked my administration to develop a plan for new initiatives to address prevention, the financial dimensions of fighting AIDS, the needs of those affected, so that we can make it clear to our African partners that we consider AIDS not just their burden but ours, as well.

But even that will not be enough. Recently, Uganda's Health Minister pointed out that to provide access to currently available treatments to every Ugandan afflicted with AIDS would cost \$24 billion. The annual budget of Uganda is \$2 billion.

The solution to this crisis, and to other killer diseases like malaria and TB, has to include effective and expensive vaccines. Now, there are four major companies in the world that develop vaccines, two in the United States and two in Europe. They have little incentive to make costly investments in developing vaccines for people who cannot afford to pay for them. So in my State of the Union address, I proposed a generous tax credit that would enable us to say to private industry, if you develop vaccines for AIDS, malaria and TB, we will help to pay for them. So go on and develop them, and we'll save millions of lives. (Applause.)

But I have to tell you, my speech -- and I don't want anybody else but me to be responsible; my speechwriters were so sensitive, they didn't

put this in the speech. But I want to say this: AIDS was a bigger problem in the United States a few years ago than it is today. AIDS rates are not going up in African countries, all African countries. They're actually going down in a couple of African countries.

Now, I know that this is a difficult and sensitive issue. I know there are cultural and religious factors that make it very difficult to tackle this issue from a preventive point of view. We don't have an AIDS vaccine yet. We have drugs that will help to prevent the transmission from pregnant mothers to their children, which I want to be able to give out. We have other drugs that have given people with AIDS in our country normal lives, in terms of their health and the length of their lives. I want those to be available.

But the real answer is to stop people from getting the HIV virus in the first place. (Applause.)

I got to see firsthand some of the things that were being done in Uganda that were instrumental in driving down the AIDS rate. Now, I don't care how hard or delicate or difficult this is; this is your children's lives we're talking about. (Applause.) You know, we who are adults, when our children's lives are at stake, have to get over whatever our hang-ups or problems are and go out there and do what is necessary to save the lives of our children. (Applause.)

And I'll help you do that, too. That's not free; that costs money. Systems have to be set up. But we shouldn't pretend that we can give injections and work our way out of this. We have to change behavior, attitudes. And it has to be done in an organized, disciplined, systematic way. And you can do more in less time for less money in a preventive way, to give the children of Africa their lives back, and the nations of Africa their futures back, with an aggressive prevention campaign than anything else. And there is no excuse for not doing it; it has to be done. (Applause.)

Finally, let me say there is one more huge obstacle to progress in Africa, that we are committed to doing our part to overcome. We must build on the leadership of Africans to end the bloody conflicts killing people and killing progress. (Applause.)

You know the toll: tens of thousands of young lives lost in the war between Ethiopia and Eritrea; thousands killed and disfigured at unbelievably young ages in the civil war that nearly destroyed Sierra Leone; 2 million killed by famine and war in Sudan, where government sees diversity as a threat rather than a strength, and denies basic relief to citizens it claims to represent.

Most of the world's conflicts pale in complexity before the situation in the Congo. At least seven nations and countless armed groups are pitted there against each other in a desperate struggle that seems to bring no one victory, and everyone misery -- especially the innocent people of the Congo. They deserve a better chance. Secretary Albright has called the Congo struggle Africa's first world war. As we search for an end to the conflict, let us remember the central lesson of the First World War: the need for a good peace. If you mess up the peace, you get another world war.

A year ago, I said if the nations of the region reached an agreement that the international community could support, I would support a peacekeeping operation in the Congo. The region has now done so. The

Lusaka cease-fire agreement takes into account the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Congo; the withdrawal of foreign forces; the security of Congo's neighbors; the need for dialogue within the nation; and most important, the need for the countries within Central Africa to cooperate in managing the region's security. It is more than a cease-fire; it is a blueprint for building peace. Best of all, it is a genuinely African solution to an African problem.

There is still fighting in Congo. Peace will not happen overnight. It will require steady commitment from the parties and the unwavering support of the international community. I have told our Congress that America intends to do its part by supporting the next phase of the U.N.'s peacekeeping operation in the Congo, which will send observers to oversee the implementation of the agreement.

We need to think hard about what is at stake here. African countries have taken the lead -- not just the countries directly affected, either. They are not asking us to solve their problems or to deploy our military. All they have asked is that we support their own efforts to build peace, and to make it last. We in the United States should be willing to do this. It is principled and practical.

I know -- I see the members of Congress here. I say again -- I see Congressman Payne, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, Congresswoman Barbara Lee, Congressman Royce -- we need to stand by the people of Africa who have decided how to solve this most complex and troubling problem. (Applause.) We have learned the hard way in the United States, over decades and decades, that the costliest peace is far cheaper than the cheapest war. And we need to remember that as we approach our common responsibilities in central Africa.

Finally, let me say that I intend to continue to work hard on these things for every day that I am President. For me, the remarkable decade of the 1990s began with the liberation symbolized by Nelson Mandela's first steps from Robben Island. (Applause.) In a few days, I will have the opportunity to join by satellite the conference in Tanzania that President Mandela is organizing to build peace in Burundi.

A lot of people look at Africa and think, oh, these problems are just too complicated. I look at Africa and I see the promise of Africa, and think, if the problems are complicated now, think how much worse they'll be if we continue to ignore them. (Applause.)

Other people grow frustrated by bad news, and wish only to hear good news. But empty optimism does Africa no more service than groundless cynicism. What we need is not empty optimism or groundless cynicism, but realistic hope. We need to see the promise, the beauty, the dreams of Africa. We need to see the problems clear and plain, and stop ignoring the evident responses. We in the United States need to understand that our obligations to be good partners with Africa are not because we are certain that everything will turn out all right, but because it is important. Because we're human beings, we can never expect everything to turn out all right.

Africa is so incredibly diverse. Its people speak nearly 3,000 languages. It is not a single, monolithic place with single, monolithic truths. A place of many places, each defined by its own history and aspirations, its own successes and failures. I was struck on my trip to Africa by the differences between Ghana and Uganda, Botswana and Senegal -- between Capetown and Soweto. I was also struck by what bound people

together in these places.

In George Washington's first draft of his Farewell Address, he wrote, "we may all be considered as the children of one common country." The more I think about globalization and the interdependence it promises and demands, the more I share that sentiment. Now, we must think of ourselves as children of one common world. If we wish to deepen peace and prosperity and democracy for ourselves, we must wish it also for the people of Africa. Africa is the cradle of humanity, but also a big part of humanity's future.

I leave you with this thought: when I think of the troubles of Africa, rooted in tribal differences; when I think of the continuing troubles in America, across racial lines, rooted in the shameful way we brought slaves here from West Africa so long ago, and our continuing challenges as we integrate wave after wave after wave of new immigrants from new places around the world; I am struck by the fact that life's greatest joy is our common humanity, and life's greatest curse is our inability to see our common humanity.

In Africa, life is full of joy and difficulty. But for too long, the African people have lacked for friends and allies to help the joys overcome the difficulties. The United States will be a friend for life.

Thank you. (Applause.)

END

11:28 A.M. EST

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RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:17-FEB-2000 09:44:34.00

SUBJECT: draft of Africa speech

TO: Kenneth S. Baer (CN=Kenneth S. Baer/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jeffrey K. Nussbaum (CN=Jeffrey K. Nussbaum/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Vice President Al Gore

National Summit on Africa

February 18, 2000 (independence day for The Gambia)

DRAFT THURSDAY 10 AM

It is an historic moment in U.S. foreign relations when thousands of Americans gather together in the nation ,s capital to put forward a plan to improve understanding and cooperation between the United States and Africa. This national summit is the culmination of several years work and proves that here in America there is a mobile and motivated national constituency for Africa. A constituency that can make news, make noise, and make a difference in shaping our Africa policy. I particularly want to acknowledge the breadth and sophistication of the agenda you will put forward, and I want to commend the delegates for stating clearly a fundamental principle of foreign policy -- that international stability is not possible in the face of massive economic and social disparities. Congratulations and thank you.

Your path-breaking efforts come not a moment too soon. We Americans have entered an age that is filled with hope and promise and boundless opportunity. But we have also entered an age with risks, an age that will be far less forgiving of narrow notions of our national interest than any we have seen in the past.

As we enter the 21st century, we must see America ,s security -- and world security -- through a new and wider prism. In the past century we have seen wars among nations, and wars within nations) because of the false conceit of religious or racial superiority; because of lust for power; because of a sense that the world was too small to allow for the survival and prosperity of all; because of the tendency we have as humans to group up -- and thus to fear, demonize and dehumanize other groups. We have seen how, in this century, poverty) or more accurately, the collapse of hopes and dreams, can make people desperate, and open to evil leadership.

Amidst all these ancient threats, there are new forces arising that now or soon will challenge the international order, raising issues of war and peace, wealth and poverty, health and disease, order or chaos.

These new forces change completely the calculus of international engagement -- because while in an earlier age, disengaging from the world would have been thoughtless; today it is unthinkable.

Together, as a family of nations, we must face the global environmental challenge; the global challenge of fighting drugs and crime

and corruption; the global threat of pandemics laying waste to whole societies; the global challenge of economic growth, and making its prosperity felt by the least well-off; the global challenge of designing a fundamentally new and democratic order for acquiring knowledge. Most of all, and underlying it all, we face the global challenge of discovering a binding sense of solidarity to unite us against our common threats -- because today ,s threats are challenges all nations face together and no nation can solve on its own.

Even in the face of the obvious interdependence in the world, there is still opposition to our investment and engagement in Africa. Seeing only the challenges and ignoring the opportunities, some cynics stuck in the foreign policy of the past say America has no interests in Africa -- that the situation is bleak, that America can do nothing for Africa and can gain nothing from Africa.

They could not be more mistaken. We must not only continue our work with Africa, but expand our work with Africa) and broaden and deepen and widen the minds of those who would stand in our way: First, because Africa is enjoying an historic spread of democracy and economic growth. Second, because U.S. engagement can help accelerate African progress. And third, because Africa has much to gain from African success, and much to learn from African experience.

Over the past decade, Africa has been enjoying a renaissance. A rising wave of African nations has moved from dictatorship to democracy, embraced economic reform, opened markets, privatized enterprises, stabilized currencies. Economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa has tripled, creating prospects for a higher quality of life across the continent. More than half the nations of Africa now elect their own leaders, nearly four times the number 10 years ago.

Many nations are overcoming age-old conflicts and turning their energy and resources toward building their economies, and raising the quality of life for their people. And Africa is young. The majority of its population is under 17. A rising percentage of the population has been born to Democracy. With improved education and expanding access to knowledge and information, this generation will intensify the struggle for freedom, equality, and prosperity.

In the midst of Africa ,s fresh success in democratic strength and economic growth, I believe profoundly that American investment can make a decisive difference in accelerating that progress.

Let me outline, very briefly, several areas of U.S.-Africa joint action that will pay important dividends in the years ahead.

AIDS: As many of you know, I was honored last month to chair the United Nations Security Council ,s historic meeting on AIDS) the first Security Council meeting of the millennium, and the first ever devoted to the discussion of a health issue. There I announced our second successive \$100 million increase in the fight against global AIDS, and a series of actions and initiatives designed to hit back at the scourge that is causing such grief, misery, and poverty in Africa and elsewhere. We must intensify our struggle against AIDS, or it will undercut every instance of progress on the continent.

Trade and Investment: As you also know, I am a strong supporter of the African Growth and Opportunity Act, as you are, and as is -- unanimously -- the African Diplomatic Corps. I will work hard to see it

pass. I will work hard to find additional opportunities to increase trade and investment with Africa.

Debt Relief: I think one of the most important efforts we can undertake to support democracy and economic growth in Africa is to extend debt relief (and encourage other creditors to extend debt relief) to help new democracies climb out of the debt dug for them by past dictators. It is the right thing to do -- economically, strategically, morally.

Peacekeeping: I strongly support efforts to bring new partners into the African Crisis Response Initiative to support their training for humanitarian and peacekeeping challenges in Africa and around the world. I also support continued U.S. efforts in conflict resolution in Africa and elsewhere.

Education: I strongly support giving millions more African young people the education they need to compete in the global economy. That includes greater efforts to link Africa to the Internet and give young students and entrepreneurs the educational and commercial advantages that come with it.

Democracy: I wholeheartedly support efforts to build and strengthen democracy in Africa) not just by holding elections, but by establishing rule of law and building the democratic institutions that help create opportunity, prevent conflict, and achieve justice for all.

All these investments by the United States can make an important impact on the quality of life for millions of Africans. But our investment in Africa is not for charity; it is for national security. It is not solely for Africa ,s benefit; it is for America ,s benefit. The United States has much it can gain and much it can learn from engaging Africa.

Cynics and isolationists will ask: What does America, the world , s greatest military and economic power, have to gain and learn from Africa?

First, let me state the obvious. It is in America ,s interest to have stable and prosperous partners in Africa who will trade with us, who will cooperate with us on security matters, who will work with us to fight crime and keep peace, who will declare war of corruption, and terrorism, and drug-trafficking, who will work with us to preserve the global environment. But it is also in our interest to have a partner whose values, whose ways of looking at the world, can complement our own, and add to our understanding of the world as we seek to bring peace and prosperity to the world.

You here today know, as too many do not, the rich political and cultural history of Africa. Our most remote ancestors -- yours, mine, and everyone ,s -- originated in Africa around 7 million years ago, and Africa was the sole cradle of human evolution for millions of years.

The great bend of the Niger River in West Africa was home to one of the first known settled agricultural communities, and has been a center of West African Civilization for 4000 years.

From the ninth century a large urban society flourished in modern day Zimbabwe. They left behind massive stone structures cut and placed with such precision that Europeans -- finding the ruins centuries later -- invented historical fantasies to explain the structures, so skeptical were

they that Africans, centuries earlier, had been capable of such feats of engineering.

From 1200 to 1400, the Kingdom of Mali was known throughout the Islamic world and Europe for its wealth and power. When its ruler, Mansa Musa, was traveling through Egypt on his pilgrimage to Mecca in the early 1300s, his entourage was carrying so much precious metal that the bottom fell out of the Cairo gold market.

Africa has many accomplishments unknown to many Americans, but just as important as its accomplishments, has been its cultivation -- across the 3,000 ethnic groups of Africa -- of a distinctively African regard and respect for family and community.

If the world had been wiser these past centuries; it would have taken from Africa not its valuables, but its values. We can see Africa's emphasis on family and community in most every element of everyday life. It is common practice in Africa for a young person's school tuition to be paid not by his mother and father only, but by a dozen adults in his extended family. It is common practice in Africa for many communities to have coming-of-age celebrations where the whole community comes to support the teenagers as they assume adulthood.

It is common practice in Africa to greet children with uncommon affection, and reach out to the community's children across lines of family and parentage. It is common practice in Africa to extend extraordinary respect and deference to one's elders to honor the wisdom that comes from experience. Indeed, one African proverb says: &When an elder dies, it is as if a whole library had burned down. 8

These values of family and community distinguish the African outlook. Indeed Jomo Kenyatta, the illustrious predecessor of President Moi, wrote in his book &Facing Mount Kenya 8: &While the Westerner asserts that character formation is the chief thing, he forgets that character is formed primarily through relations with other people ... this is perhaps the most fundamental difference in outlook between Africans and Europeans. 8

In fact, we need to relearn and replant and nurture the values of family and community here in America; and we need to build the institutions and economies that allow these values to flourish in Africa. A worldwide revival of these values may well be decisive in our efforts to face together the challenges of the new century.

As I said at the opening of my remarks, our global challenge is to discover a binding and powerful sense of human solidarity to unite us against global threats. It is this solidarity that must save us. It is this solidarity that Africa can help teach us.

Americans and Africans have worked together before -- in solidarity -- on the great questions of equality and justice. In the last century, the NAACP was founded in 1909 and served as a model for the African National Congress, founded three years later. Julius Nyerere once said that &racial discrimination is the mother of war, and suffering, and loss of freedom for everyone. 8 As the NAACP and the ANC pursued their fight against racial discrimination in Africa and in the United States, they shared tactics, and ideals, and inspiration with one another. In this century, how do we preserve and deepen that sense of solidarity? How do we eliminate racism, mitigate its effects, create opportunity for people who have long been denied? In the United States, it is a minority

of the population; in Africa a majority of the population, but in both countries an indispensable part of the population. How do we lift them up?

In this new century, courage, foresight, and freedom can come together in a moment of choice to change our world) if all nations who seek a newer world begin acting like a family that shares the same values, the same children, the same earth, the same future. It is time to change the way we live together on this planet.

Ten years ago last week, early on a Sunday morning -- Washington time -- I sat in wonder and watched Nelson Mandela walk out of his cell on Robben Island, free at last. Only my son was there awake with me. He was six years old. And I remember thinking then how often a parent has the burden of answering the infinite series of &Whys? 8 from their children. Why do people hurt other people? Why is there war? Why is there prejudice and hatred? But on that day, as he asked me &why, dad? 8) I responded with overflowing joy: &this, son, shows that we human beings are capable of much more than we settle for. We can make our dreams come true. 8

Last summer, Tipper and I became grandparents for the first time) a grandson, born on the fourth of July. And my mind looked out on the horizon he will inhabit. Far sooner than we imagine, he will begin quizzing his parents &why? 8 &Why is the world that way, mom? 8 &Why do people act that way, dad? 8 I look forward to the day when they can answer, when you can answer, when all parents can answer: &Why do people act that way? (.. Because, my child, we have finally learned to live in peace; we have finally learned to share prosperity; we have finally learned to embrace diversity; we have finally learned to respect difference. Because, my child, we have finally overcome. 8

Thank you. God bless you. God bless America. And God bless our partners in Africa.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:17-FEB-2000 19:48:47.00

SUBJECT: here 'tis

TO: Eli G. Attie (CN=Eli G. Attie/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Vice President Al Gore
National Summit on Africa
Friday, February 18, 2000
Draft 700 pm

It is an historic moment in U.S. foreign relations when thousands of Americans gather together in the nation's capital to put forward a plan to improve understanding and cooperation between the United States and Africa. This national summit proves that, here in America, there is a motivated national constituency for Africa -- a constituency that can make news, make noise, and make a difference in shaping our Africa policy.

I want to acknowledge the breadth and sophistication of the agenda you have put forward. And I want to commend the delegates for stating clearly this fundamental principle of foreign policy: international stability is not possible in the face of massive economic and social disparities. Together, we must work to close those disparities) because it is in our national interest, and because it is right for Africa and for the world.

I believe this path-breaking effort comes not a moment too soon. For as we open a new century, we mark an era of new security threats around the world) one that demands that we change the very nature of the way we live together on this planet. Of course, we must still meet the old threats to our national security: the threat of aggression and armed conflict. The challenge of spreading democracy and freedom throughout the world.

But we face new challenges as well. We face global environmental challenges) and new threats of drugs and crime and corruption that spill across borders. We face a global challenge of terror, magnified by the availability of weapons of mass destruction so small, they can be concealed in a coat pocket. We face new global pandemics such as HIV/AIDS, which threaten to lay waste to whole societies. In an increasingly global economy, we face the challenge of sustained and sustainable economic growth -- and how to extend it to those nations and peoples that are the least well-off.

Our task is not merely to recognize and confront these new challenges, but to rise to our higher ideals. We must seek a world of security for all) security not only from loss of life and the ravages of war, but security from constant fear and degradation, and from a loss of the quality of life and liberty of spirit that should belong to all.

Nowhere is this challenge more important than in Africa. It is manifestly in America's interest to have stable and prosperous partners in Africa) partners who will work with us to promote freedom and democracy, increase trade and investment, fight crime and keep peace, declare war on terrorists and narco-traffickers, and work with us to preserve the global environment.

Today, we have a better chance than ever to form important partnerships in Africa. In the past decade, a rising wave of African nations has moved from dictatorship to democracy. More than half the nations of Africa now elect their own leaders) a number that has quadrupled in the past decade. More and more African nations are embracing economic reform, opening their markets, privatizing enterprises, and stabilizing their currencies. Economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa has tripled, creating prospects for a higher quality of life across the continent. I believe we must rise to this moment) to deepen our economic ties and strengthen the free markets that are just now taking hold.

Some pessimists look at Africa today and see only the challenges, not the opportunities. Some cynics, stuck in the foreign policy of the past, say America can do little for Africa and gain little from Africa.

They could not be more mistaken. In the past, disengaging from Africa would have been thoughtless. Today it is unthinkable. We must not only continue our work with Africa, we must expand our work with Africa) and we must work to widen the minds of those who would stand in our way.

I believe there are several critical areas where American investment and engagement can make a decisive and enduring difference for Africa, for America, and for our global security in the 21st century) the global economy, peace and security; promoting democracy, and fighting disease.

1. Global Economy. Africa is the world ,s greatest untapped market for American goods. And Africa ,s best chance for prosperity is to give its businesses a chance to sell their goods on the world market. We must work with them to boost their economy, improve their technology, and enhance trade and investment between Africa, the United States, and the world. Making Africa more attractive to outside investment is the number one way we know of to quickly import the capital, the training, and the technology it will take to increase economic opportunity across the continent.

I strongly support the African Growth and Opportunity Act. I thank the National Summit on Africa for its support of the bill, and I commend the African Diplomatic Corp for its energetic and unanimous advocacy of this legislation.

At the same time, no nation can compete in the global economy without education. We need to assist African efforts to provide quality education to millions more young people so they have the chance to raise the economic prospects of the families and communities. I also strongly support efforts to extend the infrastructure and training Africans need -- so that 21st century technology creates new opportunities in the economy, not new divisions in society.

2. Peace and Security: No society can tap the full talents of its people in the midst of war and chaos. I stand strongly behind U.S. efforts to fund African conflict resolution and peacekeeping initiatives. I especially endorse the African Crisis Response Initiative which has already trained thousands of peacekeepers from among African military personnel. We should work hard to bring new partners into ACRI. A well-trained, well-equipped African peacekeeping effort will make an important difference in the security and stability of the region and the world. Make no mistake, an area that is ungoverned by a stable and elected government, that is controlled and patrolled only by armies and

armed insurgents, is a haven for the kind of terrorists and narco-traffickers that present a direct threat to American security.

3. Promoting Democracy. Nothing is more important and enduring to Africa ,s progress than efforts to promote democracy on the continent. I am not talking about elections alone, though elections are an essential first step. I am talking about the rule of law; independent judiciaries; free press; active, energetic NGOs; and transparent government.

Not only is democracy the best embodiment of our ideals of liberty and equality; it is the best guarantor of justice and human rights. Democracies excel every other system of government for producing economic growth and political stability. Democracies are less likely to fight wars with each other and more likely to cooperate on security issues.

In the 1990s, Africa ,s richest nation and its most populous nation both embraced democracy. We need to continue efforts to support those democracies and encourage the spread of democracy, if we are to improve our chances of increasing peace and prosperity in Africa.

4. Fighting Disease. We must do more to confront the growing crisis of AIDS in Africa. As Congressman Payne noted, I was honored last month to chair the United Nations Security Council ,s historic meeting on AIDS) the first Security Council meeting of the millennium, and the first ever devoted to the discussion of a health issue. There I announced our second successive \$100 million increase in the fight against global AIDS. I announced \$50 million in our budget to help fund the research, purchase, and distribution of lifesaving vaccines in developing nations. And I announced my plans to work with U.S. business leaders active in Africa, to help make the workplace an effective place for the education and prevention of AIDS and to seek greater resources for our efforts. I hope and believe some of you here will work with me in that project. We must intensify our global battle against AIDS, or it can undercut the historic progress taking place in every other area of Africa.

To win the ongoing battle against disease, we must also fight the poverty that speeds the spread of disease. That means extending debt relief -- and encouraging others to extend debt relief -- to help new democracies climb out of the debt dug for them by past dictators. It is the right thing to do -- economically, strategically, morally.

These investments by the United States) in the global economy, peace and security, promoting democracy and fighting disease) can make an enduring impact on the quality of life for millions of Africans. But even as our efforts benefit Africa, they help America. I believe this in my heart. I know it in my soul. I ,ve seen it in my experience. That is why I am and will always remain a tireless proponent of American engagement and investment in Africa and around the world.

Before I end my remarks, I want to talk for a minute about what I personally find so special about engaging with Africa in particular. Africa has many accomplishments unknown to too many Americans, like the ancient civilizations of Mali and Zimbabwe. But just as important as its accomplishments, has been its cultivation -- across the 3,000 ethnic groups of Africa -- of a distinctively African respect for family and community.

If the world had been wiser these past centuries; it would have taken from Africa not its valuables, but its values. We can see Africa ,s emphasis on family and community in most every element of everyday life.

It is common practice in Africa for a young person's school tuition to be paid not by his mother and father only, but by a dozen adults in his extended family. It is common practice in Africa to embrace children with uncommon affection, and reach out to care for the community's children across lines of family and parentage. And it is common practice in Africa to extend extraordinary respect and deference to one's elders to honor the wisdom that comes from experience. Indeed, one African proverb says: &When an elder dies, it is as if a whole library had burned down. 8

These values of family and community distinguish the African outlook. Indeed Jomo Kenyatta, the illustrious predecessor of President Moi, wrote in his book &Facing Mount Kenya 8: &While the Westerner asserts that character formation is the chief thing, he forgets that character is formed primarily through relations with other people ... this is perhaps the most fundamental difference in outlook between Africans and Europeans. 8

In fact, we need to relearn and replant and nurture the values of family and community here in America; and we need to build the institutions and economies that allow these values to flourish in Africa. A worldwide revival of these values may well be decisive in our efforts to face together the challenges of the new century.

Indeed, I remember sitting in Market Theatre in Johannesburg, on the eve of the Inauguration of President Mandela, talking with the Rev. Jesse Jackson about how Americans and Africans worked together in the last century to fight discrimination and advance democracy on both continents.

The NAACP, Reverend Jackson reminded me, was founded in 1909 and served as a model for the African National Congress, which was founded three years later. As the NAACP and the ANC pursued their fight against racial discrimination in Africa and in the United States, they shared tactics, and ideals, and inspiration with one another. The triumphs of the ANC and the NAACP were the triumphs of a global community of millions united against the global threat of racial discrimination) a threat Julius Nyerere has called &the mother of war, and suffering, and loss of freedom. 8

I watched a moment of that triumph, and I will never forget it, ever. Ten years ago last week, early on a Sunday morning -- Washington time -- I sat in wonder and watched as Nelson Mandela walked out of his prison cell on Robben Island (. free at last. Only my son was there awake with me. He was six years old. And I remember thinking then how often a parent has the burden of answering the infinite &Whys? 8 from their children. Why do people hurt other people? Why is there war? Why is there prejudice and hatred? But on that day, as he asked me &why, dad? 8) I responded with overflowing joy: &because, son, sometimes we can make our dreams come true. 8

In this century, how can we deepen that sense of solidarity and community that made that dream come true. Courage, foresight, and freedom can come together in a moment of choice to change our world) but only if all nations who seek a newer world begin behaving like a family that shares the same values, the same children, the same earth, the same future. It is time to change the way we live together on this planet. It can never come without active engagement and involvement in the world. Working in partnership with nations, whose ways of looking at the world can add to our understanding of the world.

I look out on a horizon some future child will inhabit, who will quiz his own parents &Why is the world that way, mom? 8 &Why do people act that way, dad? 8 And I look forward to the day when they say: &Why do people act that way? (... Because, my child, we have finally learned to live in peace; we have finally learned to share prosperity; we have finally learned to embrace diversity; we have finally learned to respect difference. Because, my child, we have finally overcome. 8

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RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:17-FEB-2000 19:35:16.00

SUBJECT:

TO: Alejandro G. Cabrera (CN=Alejandro G. Cabrera/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Vice President Al Gore
National Summit on Africa
Friday, February 18, 2000
Draft 700 pm

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I believe this path-breaking effort comes not a moment too soon. For as we open a new century, we mark an era of new security threats around the world) one that demands that we change the very nature of the way we live together on this planet. Of course, we must still meet the old threats to our national security: the threat of aggression and armed conflict. The challenge of spreading democracy and freedom throughout the world.

But we face new challenges as well. We face global environmental challenges) and new threats of drugs and crime and corruption that spill across borders. We face a global challenge of terror, magnified by the availability of weapons of mass destruction so small, they can be concealed in a coat pocket. We face new global pandemics such as HIV/AIDS, which threaten to lay waste to whole societies. In an increasingly global economy, we face the challenge of sustained and sustainable economic growth -- and how to extend it to those nations and peoples that are the least well-off.

Our task is not merely to recognize and confront these new challenges, but to rise to our higher ideals. We must seek a world of security for all) security not only from loss of life and the ravages of war, but security from constant fear and degradation, and from a loss of the quality of life and liberty of spirit that should belong to all.

Nowhere is this challenge more important than in Africa. It is manifestly in America's interest to have stable and prosperous partners in Africa) partners who will work with us to promote freedom and democracy, increase trade and investment, fight crime and keep peace, declare war on terrorists and narco-traffickers, and work with us to preserve the global environment.

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To win the ongoing battle against disease, we must also fight the poverty that speeds the spread of disease. That means extending debt relief -- and encouraging others to extend debt relief -- to help new democracies climb out of the debt dug for them by past dictators. It is the right thing to do -- economically, strategically, morally.

These investments by the United States -- in the global economy, peace and security, promoting democracy and fighting disease -- can make an enduring impact on the quality of life for millions of Africans. But even as our efforts benefit Africa, they help America. I believe this in my heart. I know it in my soul. I've seen it in my experience. That is why I am and will always remain a tireless proponent of American engagement and investment in Africa and around the world.

Before I end my remarks, I want to talk for a minute about what I personally find so special about engaging with Africa. As we seek this change, it will always be in our interest to do so in partnership with Africa, whose ways of looking at the world can add to our understanding of the world, as we seek peace and prosperity for the world.

Africa has many accomplishments unknown to too many Americans, like the ancient civilizations of Mali and Zimbabwe. But just as important as its accomplishments, has been its cultivation -- across the 3,000 ethnic groups of Africa -- of a distinctively African respect for family and community.

If the world had been wiser these past centuries; it would have taken from Africa not its valuables, but its values. We can see Africa's emphasis on family and community in most every element of everyday life. It is common practice in Africa for a young person's school tuition to be paid not by his mother and father only, but by a dozen adults in his extended family. It is common practice in Africa to embrace children with uncommon affection, and reach out to care for the community's children across lines of family and parentage. And it is common practice in Africa to extend extraordinary respect and deference to one's elders to honor the wisdom that comes from experience. Indeed, one African proverb says: &When an elder dies, it is as if a whole library had burned down. 8

These values of family and community distinguish the African outlook. Indeed Jomo Kenyatta, the illustrious predecessor of President Moi, wrote in his book &Facing Mount Kenya 8: &While the Westerner asserts that character formation is the chief thing, he forgets that character is formed primarily through relations with other people ... this is perhaps the most fundamental difference in outlook between Africans and Europeans. 8

In fact, we need to relearn and replant and nurture the values of family and community here in America; and we need to build the institutions and economies that allow these values to flourish in Africa. A worldwide revival of these values may well be decisive in our efforts to face together the challenges of the new century.

Indeed, I remember sitting in Market Theatre in Johannesburg, on the eve of the Inauguration of President Mandela, talking with the Rev. Jesse Jackson about how Americans and Africans worked together in the last century to fight discrimination and advance democracy on both continents.

The NAACP, Reverend Jackson reminded me, was founded in 1909 and served as a model for the African National Congress, which was founded three years later. As the NAACP and the ANC pursued their fight against racial discrimination in Africa and in the United States, they shared tactics, and ideals, and inspiration with one another. The triumphs of the ANC and the NAACP were the triumphs of millions around the world united against the global threat of racial discrimination) a threat Julius Nyerere has called &the mother of war, and suffering, and loss of freedom. 8

I watched a moment of that triumph, and I will never forget it, ever. Ten years ago last week, early on a Sunday morning -- Washington time -- I sat in wonder and watched as Nelson Mandela walked out of his prison cell on Robben Island (. free at last. Only my son was there awake with me. He was six years old. And I remember thinking then how often a parent has the burden of answering the infinite &Whys? 8 from their children. Why do people hurt other people? Why is there war? Why is there prejudice and hatred? But on that day, as he asked me &why, dad? 8) I responded with overflowing joy: &because, son, sometimes we can make our dreams come true. 8

In this century, how can we deepen that sense of solidarity and community that made that dream come true. Courage, foresight, and freedom can come together in a moment of choice to change our world) but only if all nations who seek a newer world begin behaving like a family that shares the same values, the same children, the same earth, the same future. It is time to change the way we live together on this planet.

I look out on the horizon some future child will inhabit, who will quiz his own parents &Why is the world that way, mom? 8 &Why do people act that way, dad? 8 I look forward to the day when they can answer, when you can answer, when all parents can answer: &Why do people act that way? (.. Because, my child, we have finally learned to live in peace; we have finally learned to share prosperity; we have finally learned to embrace diversity; we have finally learned to respect difference. Because, my child, we have finally overcome. 8

Thank you. God bless America. And God bless our partners in Africa.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Eli G. Attie (CN=Eli G. Attie/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:17-FEB-2000 20:21:42.00

SUBJECT: Re: here 'tis

TO: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

REMARKS BY VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE

NATIONAL SUMMIT ON AFRICA

Friday, February 18, 2000

I ,m honored to be here today, as we join together for a truly historic purpose: to improve understanding and cooperation between the United States and Africa. This summit proves that) far beyond the 30 million Americans who trace their heritage to Africa -- there are a great many Americans who believe this is a time for engagement, investment, and action.

I believe it ,s fitting that we open a new century with this new commitment to the nations of Africa. For at the dawn of a new century, we find new security threats emerging around the world) challenges that bind us even more closely to our allies in Africa.

We face new global pandemics such as HIV and AIDS, which threaten to lay waste to whole societies.

In an increasingly global economy, we face the challenge of sustainable economic growth -- and how to extend it to those nations and peoples that are the least well-off.

We face a global challenge of terror, magnified by the availability of weapons of mass destruction so small, they can be concealed in a coat pocket.

We face global environmental challenges) and new threats of drugs and crime and corruption that spill across borders.

In the midst of these new security threats, we need a new security agenda for the 21st Century) one that seeks security not only from the ravages of war, but from constant fear and degradation, from a loss of the quality of life and liberty of spirit that should belong to all.

Nowhere is the challenge greater) or the opportunity stronger) than on the continent of Africa.

In recent years, Africa has seen a dramatic expansion of democracy; Nigeria is just the latest example. More than half of all African nations now elect their own leaders.

I believe we must seize this opportunity to strengthen democracy and promote peace and stability throughout the region.

Today, more and more African nations are opening their markets, privatizing enterprises, and showing strong economic growth. Economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa has tripled in the past ____ years) and

there are now 700 million producers and consumers.

I believe America has both a strong economic interest and a strong security interest in deepening our economic ties, and strengthening the free markets that are taking hold.

And for all the opportunities, we find grave risks that could undermine all this progress toward growth and democracy Africa:

HIV and AIDS now infects 10 people in sub-Saharan Africa every minute. Africa suffers from the lowest school enrollment rate in the developing world. For many, poverty and hunger are deep and inescapable.

I believe we must do more to help the people of Africa conquer these challenges. We must do more) both because it is morally right, and because it is the only way for Africa to seize the promise of peace, freedom, and prosperity.

I want to briefly discuss these three central challenges) strengthening peace and democracy; fostering economic growth and trade; and helping to fight poverty, illiteracy, and disease across Africa.

First, let us recognize that no society can reach for its dreams if it is mired in war and chaos. Already, tens of thousands of lives have been lost in the war between Ethiopia and Eritrea. Thousands have been killed and maimed in Sierra Leone ,s civil war.

Let us be clear: without stable and elected governments, we create havens for terrorism, drug trafficking, and international disorder.

I believe America must make a strong commitment to fund peacekeeping and conflict resolution in Africa. We must support efforts such as the African Crisis Response Initiative, which is training thousands of peacekeepers from among African military personnel. We have to broaden that effort, in Africa and around the world.

A well-trained, well-equipped African peacekeeping effort will make an important difference to the security and stability of the region) and also to the world.

And in the absence of armed conflict, we must help democracy take root. Not elections alone, but rule of law, independent judiciaries, a free press, open and transparent government) the institutions that give people a stake in their society, and in its success.

Democracy the best guarantor of justice and human rights. It also surpasses every other system of government in producing economic growth, political stability, and meaningful cooperation on international security.

In the 1990s, Africa ,s richest nation and its most populous nation both embraced democracy. We need to do more to encourage the spread of democracy if we are to improve our chances of peace and prosperity in Africa.

Second, it is in our clear self-interest) and it is in Africa ,s interest) to open their markets to our products, and give their businesses a chance to sell their goods on the world market. Making Africa more attractive to investment is the single best way to harness the capital, the training, and the technology to share economic opportunity across the continent.

That is why I strongly support the African Growth and Opportunity Act, and I will work hard for its passage. I ,m grateful that the National Summit on Africa has supported the bill) and that the African Diplomatic Corp has unanimously called for its passage.

Let ,s understand: in many poor African nations, economic growth will not happen until they can free themselves from the burden of debt. Young democracies shouldn ,t have to choose between feeding their children and paying interest on a dictator ,s old debt. I ,m proud we are taking steps to forgive the debt burden in the developing world. We need to do more.

We must keep working to close the vast digital divide between the developed and developing worlds. We need to do more to provide the infrastructure and training Africans need to take advantage of new technology and the Internet -- so new technology creates new opportunities, not new divisions in the global economy.

At the same time, no nation can compete in the global economy without a world-class education. Here at home and around the world) education is the best anti-poverty program, the best anti-discrimination program, the best way to promote tolerance and understanding and a respect for democracy itself. I believe America has a deep and abiding interest in improving the quality of education for the families and communities of Africa) and we should do more to fulfill it.

Third and finally, let us recognize that HIV and AIDS is a crushing security crisis in Africa and across the world. We now know that the number of people who will die of AIDS in the first decade of the 21st Century will rival the number that died in all the wars in all the decades of the 20th Century. It demands our attention) and it demands global action.

Last month, I was honored to chair the United Nations Security Council ,s historic meeting on AIDS) the first-ever Security Council meeting devoted to a health issue. I was proud to announce a new \$100 million commitment to fight against AIDS worldwide. I was proud to announce a new \$50 million commitment to help find, buy, and distribute life-saving vaccines in developing nations.

I announced my plan to convene a meeting of American business leaders active in Africa, to help make the workplace an effective place for the education and prevention of AIDS. I hope many of you will join me in that effort. If we do not confront the havoc wreaked and the toll exacted by HIV/AIDS, we will never build the strong and prosperous Africa we all seek.

I believe we must meet these challenges) to create and strengthen a new solidarity with the nations of Africa, as we seek a newer world of security for all. To me, these challenges lie at the heart of our new security agenda for the 21st Century) one that is grounded in our deep self-interest, but uplifted by our sense of what is right in the world.

___ years ago, on the eve of the Inauguration of President Mandela, I remember talking with the Rev. Jesse Jackson in Johannesburg about how Americans and Africans have worked together -- in solidarity) to end discrimination and advance democracy.

In the last century, the NAACP was founded in 1909 and served as a model

for the African National Congress, founded three years later. As the NAACP and the ANC pursued their fight against racial discrimination in Africa and in the United States, they shared tactics, and ideals, and inspiration. The triumph of the ANC was the triumph of millions around the world against racial discrimination.

Ten years ago last week, early on a Sunday morning, I sat in wonder and watched as Nelson Mandela walked out of his prison cell on Robben Island. My son was there awake with me. He was six years old. And I remember thinking how often a parent has the burden of answering the infinite & Whys? 8 from their children. Why do people hurt other people? Why is there war? Why is there poverty and deprivation? On that day, as he asked me &why, dad? 8) I responded with overflowing joy: &because, son, sometimes we can make our dreams come true. 8

In this century, how do we preserve and deepen that sense of solidarity that made this dream come true?

In this new century, we can change our world) but only if all nations who seek a newer world recognize that we share the same children, the same earth, the same future. It is time to change the way we live together on this planet.

As we seek this change, it will always be in our interest to do so in partnership with Africa, whose ways of looking at the world can add to our understanding of the world, as we seek peace and prosperity for the world.

Thank you. God bless America. And God bless our partners in Africa.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:17-FEB-2000 11:59:37.00

SUBJECT: thursday noon draft of Africa speech

TO: Alejandro G. Cabrera (CN=Alejandro G. Cabrera/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

----- Forwarded by Thomas M. Rosshirt/OVP on 02/17/2000
11:59 AM -----

Thomas M. Rosshirt
02/17/2000 11:55:43 AM
Record Type: Record

To: Eli G. Attie/OVP@OVP
cc:
Subject:draft of Africa speech

Vice President Al Gore
National Summit on Africa
February 18, 2000 (Independence day for The Gambia)
DRAFT THURSDAY 12 PM

It is an historic moment in U.S. foreign relations when thousands of Americans gather together in the nation ,s capital to put forward a plan to improve understanding and cooperation between the United States and Africa. This national summit proves that here in America there is a mobile and motivated national constituency for Africa -- a constituency that can make news, make noise, and make a difference in shaping our Africa policy. I want to acknowledge the breadth and sophistication of the agenda you put forward, and I want to commend the delegates for stating clearly a fundamental principle of foreign policy -- that international stability is not possible in the face of massive economic and social disparities. Congratulations and thank you.

Your path-breaking efforts come not a moment too soon. We Americans have entered an age that is filled with hope and promise and boundless opportunity. But we have also entered an age with risks, an age that will be far less forgiving of narrow notions of our national interest than any we have seen in the past.

As we enter the 21st century, we must see America ,s security -- and world security -- through a new and wider prism. In the past century we have seen wars among nations, and wars within nations) because of the false conceit of religious or racial superiority; because of lust for power; because of a sense that the world was too small to allow for the survival and prosperity of all; because of the tendency we have as humans to group up -- and thus to fear, demonize and dehumanize other groups. We have seen how, in this century, poverty) or more accurately, the collapse of hopes and dreams, can make people desperate, and open to evil leadership.

Amidst all these ancient threats, there are new forces arising that now or soon will challenge the international order, raising issues of war and peace, wealth and poverty, health and disease, order or chaos.

These new forces change completely the calculus of international engagement. In an earlier age, disengaging from the world would have been thoughtless; today it is unthinkable.

Together, as a family of nations, we must face the global environmental challenge; the global challenge of fighting drugs and crime and corruption; the global threat of pandemics laying waste to whole societies; the global challenge of economic growth, and making its prosperity felt by the least well-off; the global challenge of designing a fundamentally new and democratic order for acquiring knowledge. Most of all, and underlying it all, we face the global challenge of discovering a binding sense of solidarity to unite us against our common threats -- because today ,s threats are challenges all nations face together and no nation can solve on its own.

Even in the face of the world ,s obvious interdependence, there is still opposition to our investment and engagement in Africa. Seeing only the challenges and ignoring the opportunities, some cynics stuck in the foreign policy of the past say America can do nothing for Africa and can gain nothing from Africa.

They could not be more mistaken. We must not only continue our work with Africa, but expand our work with Africa) and broaden and deepen and widen the minds of those who would stand in our way: First, because Africa is enjoying an historic spread of democracy and economic growth. Second, because U.S. engagement can help accelerate African progress. And third, because America has much to gain from African success, and much to learn from African experience.

Over the past decade, Africa has been enjoying a renaissance. A rising wave of African nations has moved from dictatorship to democracy, embraced economic reform, opened markets, privatized enterprises, stabilized currencies. Economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa has tripled, creating prospects for a higher quality of life across the continent. More than half the nations of Africa now elect their own leaders, nearly four times the number 10 years ago.

Many nations are overcoming age-old conflicts and turning their energy and resources toward building their economies, and raising the quality of life for their people. And Africa is young. The majority of its population is under 17. A rising percentage of the population has been born to Democracy. With improved education and expanding access to knowledge and information, this generation will intensify the struggle for freedom, equality, and prosperity.

In the midst of Africa ,s fresh success in democratic strength and economic growth, I believe that American investment can make a decisive difference in accelerating that progress.

Let me outline, very briefly, several areas of U.S.-Africa joint action that will pay important dividends in the years ahead.

AIDS: As Congressman Payne noted, I was honored last month to chair the United Nations Security Council ,s historic meeting on AIDS) the first Security Council meeting of the millennium, and the first ever devoted to the discussion of a health issue. There I announced our second successive \$100 million increase in the fight against global AIDS. I

announced \$50 million from our budget to help fund the research, purchase, and distribution of lifesaving vaccines in developing nations. And I announced my plans to convene a meeting of U.S. business leaders active in Africa, to help make the workplace an effective place for the education and prevention of AIDS. I hope and believe some of you here will work with me in that effort. We must intensify our global battle against AIDS, or it will undercut the historic progress taking place today in Africa.

Trade and Investment: As you also know, I am a strong supporter of the African Growth and Opportunity Act, as you are, and as is -- unanimously -- the African Diplomatic Corps. I will work hard to see it pass. I will work hard to find additional opportunities to increase trade and investment with Africa.

Debt Relief: I think one of the most important efforts we can undertake to support democracy and economic growth in Africa is to extend debt relief (and encourage other creditors to extend debt relief) to help new democracies climb out of the debt dug for them by past dictators. It is the right thing to do -- economically, strategically, morally.

Peacekeeping: I strongly support efforts to bring new partners into the African Crisis Response Initiative to support their training for humanitarian and peacekeeping challenges in Africa and around the world. I also support continued U.S. efforts in conflict resolution in Africa and elsewhere.

Education: I strongly support giving millions more African young people the education they need to compete in the global economy. That includes greater efforts to link Africa to the Internet and give young students and entrepreneurs the educational and commercial advantages that come with it.

Democracy: I wholeheartedly support efforts to build and strengthen democracy in Africa -- not just by holding elections, but by establishing rule of law and building the democratic institutions that help create opportunity, prevent conflict, and achieve justice for all.

All these investments by the United States can make an important impact on the quality of life for millions of Africans. But our investment in Africa is not for charity; it is for national security. It is not solely for Africa's benefit; it is for America's benefit. The United States has much it can gain and much it can learn from engaging Africa.

Cynics and isolationists will ask: What does America, the world's greatest military and economic power, have to gain and learn from Africa?

First, let me state the obvious. It is in America's interest to have stable and prosperous partners in Africa who will trade with us, who will cooperate with us on security matters, who will work with us to fight crime and keep peace, who will declare war on corruption, and terrorism, and drug-trafficking, who will work with us to preserve the global environment. But it is also in our interest to have a partner whose values, whose ways of looking at the world, can complement our own, and add to our understanding of the world as we seek to bring peace and prosperity to the world.

You here today know, as too many do not, the rich political and cultural history of Africa. Our most remote ancestors -- yours, mine, and everyone's -- originated in Africa around 7 million years ago, and Africa

was the sole cradle of human evolution for millions of years.

The great bend of the Niger River in West Africa was home to one of the first known settled agricultural communities, and has been a center of West African Civilization for 4000 years.

From the ninth century a large urban society flourished in modern day Zimbabwe. They left behind massive stone structures cut and placed with such precision that Europeans -- centuries later -- invented historical fantasies to explain the structures, so skeptical were they that Africans had been capable of such feats of engineering.

From 1200 to 1400, the Kingdom of Mali was known throughout the Islamic world and Europe for its wealth and power. When its ruler, Mansa Musa, was traveling through Egypt on his pilgrimage to Mecca in the early 1300s, his entourage was carrying so much precious metal that the bottom fell out of the Cairo gold market.

Africa has many accomplishments unknown to many Americans, but just as important as its accomplishments, has been its cultivation -- across the 3,000 ethnic groups of Africa -- of a distinctively African respect for family and community.

If the world had been wiser these past centuries; it would have taken from Africa not its valuables, but its values. We can see Africa's emphasis on family and community in most every element of everyday life. It is common practice in Africa for a young person's school tuition to be paid not by his mother and father only, but by a dozen adults in his extended family. It is common practice in Africa for many communities to have coming-of-age celebrations where the whole community comes to support the teenagers as they assume adulthood.

It is common practice in Africa to greet children with uncommon affection, and reach out to care for the community's children across lines of family and parentage. And it is common practice in Africa to extend extraordinary respect and deference to one's elders to honor the wisdom that comes from experience. Indeed, one African proverb says: &When an elder dies, it is as if a whole library had burned down. 8

These values of family and community distinguish the African outlook. Indeed Jomo Kenyatta, the illustrious predecessor of President Moi, wrote in his book &Facing Mount Kenya 8: &While the Westerner asserts that character formation is the chief thing, he forgets that character is formed primarily through relations with other people ... this is perhaps the most fundamental difference in outlook between Africans and Europeans. 8

In fact, we need to relearn and replant and nurture the values of family and community here in America; and we need to build the institutions and economies that allow these values to flourish in Africa. A worldwide revival of these values may well be decisive in our efforts to face together the challenges of the new century.

As I said at the opening of my remarks, our global challenge is to discover a binding and powerful sense of human solidarity to unite us against global threats. It is this solidarity that must save us. It is this solidarity that Africa can help teach us.

In Market Theatre in Johannesburg, on the eve of the Inauguration of President Mandela, I remember talking with the Rev. Jesse Jackson about

how Americans and Africans have worked together before -- in solidarity -- on the great questions of equality and justice.

In the last century, the NAACP was founded in 1909 and served as a model for the African National Congress, founded three years later. As the NAACP and the ANC pursued their fight against racial discrimination in Africa and in the United States, they shared tactics, and ideals, and inspiration with one another. In this century, how do we preserve and deepen that sense of solidarity? How do we eliminate racism, mitigate its effects, and create opportunity for people who have long been denied? In the United States, it is a minority of the population; in Africa a majority of the population, but in both places an indispensable part of the population. How do we lift them up?

In this new century, courage, foresight, and freedom can come together in a moment of choice to change our world) but only if all nations who seek a newer world begin behaving like a family that shares the same values, the same children, the same earth, the same future. It is time to change the way we live together on this planet.

Ten years ago last week, early on a Sunday morning -- Washington time -- I sat in wonder and watched Nelson Mandela walk out of his prison cell on Robben Island (. free at last. Only my son was there awake with me. He was six years old. And I remember thinking then how often a parent has the burden of answering the infinite &Whys? 8 from their children. Why do people hurt other people? Why is there war? Why is there prejudice and hatred? But on that day, as he asked me &why, dad? 8) I responded with overflowing joy: &because, son, sometimes we can make our dreams come true. 8

Last summer, Tipper and I became grandparents for the first time) a grandson, born on the fourth of July. And my mind has looked out on the horizon he will inhabit. Far sooner than we imagine, he will begin quizzing his parents &why? 8 &Why is the world that way, mom? 8 &Why do people act that way, dad? 8 I look forward to the day when they can answer, when you can answer, when all parents can answer: &Why do people act that way? (.. Because, my child, we have finally learned to live in peace; we have finally learned to share prosperity; we have finally learned to embrace diversity; we have finally learned to respect difference. Because, my child, we have finally overcome. 8

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RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:17-FEB-2000 15:26:05.00

SUBJECT: africa mid-draft -- the thing collapses in mud at the close

TO: Eli G. Attie (CN=Eli G. Attie/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Vice President Al Gore

National Summit on Africa

February 18, 2000 (independence day for The Gambia)

DRAFT THURSDAY 12 PM

It is an historic moment in U.S. foreign relations when thousands of Americans gather together in the nation ,s capital to put forward a plan to improve understanding and cooperation between the United States and Africa. This national summit proves that here in America there is a mobile and motivated national constituency for Africa -- a constituency that can make news, make noise, and make a difference in shaping our Africa policy. I want to acknowledge the breadth and sophistication of the agenda you put forward, and I want to commend the delegates for stating clearly a fundamental principle of foreign policy -- that international stability is not possible in the face of massive economic and social disparities. Congratulations and thank you.

Your path-breaking efforts come not a moment too soon. We have entered an age that is filled with hope and promise and opportunity. But we have also entered an age with risks, an age that will punish countries who hold narrow notions of their national interest.

As a family of nations, we must meet the global environmental challenge; the global challenge of fighting drugs and crime and corruption; the global threat of pandemics laying waste to whole societies; the global challenge of economic growth, and making its prosperity felt by the least well-off; the global challenge of designing a fundamentally new and democratic order for acquiring knowledge. Most of all, and underlying it all, we face the global challenge of discovering a binding sense of solidarity to unite us against our common threats.

In this new era, amidst all our common challenges, America must energetically expand our engagement and investment in Africa. It is manifestly in America ,s interest to have stable and prosperous partners in Africa who will work with us to promote freedom and democracy, increase trade and investment, fight crime and keep peace, declare war on terrorists and narco-traffickers, and work with us to preserve the global environment.

Even in the face of the world ,s obvious interdependence, there is still opposition to our investment and engagement in Africa. Seeing only the challenges and ignoring the opportunities, some cynics stuck in the foreign policy of the past say America can do nothing for Africa and can gain nothing from Africa.

They could not be more mistaken. In the past, disengaging from Africa would have been thoughtless. Today it is unthinkable. We must not only continue our work with Africa, but expand our work with Africa) and

broaden and deepen and widen the minds of those who would stand in our way.

We have a golden chance in today ,s Africa. Africa is enjoying an historic spread of democracy and economic growth that American engagement can assist and accelerate. We can ,t let the chance pass us by.

Over the past decade, Africa has been enjoying a renaissance. A rising wave of African nations has moved from dictatorship to democracy, embraced economic reform, opened markets, privatized enterprises, stabilized currencies. Economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa has tripled, creating prospects for a higher quality of life across the continent. More than half the nations of Africa now elect their own leaders, nearly four times the number 10 years ago.

Many nations are overcoming age-old conflicts and turning their energy and resources toward building their economies, and raising the quality of life for their people. And Africa is young. The majority of its population is under 17. A rising percentage of the population has been born to Democracy. With improved education and expanding access to knowledge and information, this generation will intensify the struggle for freedom, equality, and prosperity.

I believe there are several critical areas where American investment and engagement can make a decisive and enduring difference in the future of Africa, and thus, of America: .

Let me outline, very briefly, several areas of U.S.-Africa joint action that will pay important dividends in the years ahead.

AIDS: As Congressman Payne noted, I was honored last month to chair the United Nations Security Council ,s historic meeting on AIDS) the first Security Council meeting of the millennium, and the first ever devoted to the discussion of a health issue. There I announced our second successive \$100 million increase in the fight against global AIDS. I announced \$50 million from our budget to help fund the research, purchase, and distribution of lifesaving vaccines in developing nations. And I announced my plans to convene a meeting of U.S. business leaders active in Africa, to help make the workplace an effective place for the education and prevention of AIDS. I hope and believe some of you here will work with me in that effort. We must intensify our global battle against AIDS, or it will undercut the historic progress taking place today in Africa.

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These investments by the United States can make an important impact on the quality of life for millions of Africans. But our investment in Africa is not for charity; it is for national security. It is not solely for Africa ,s benefit; it is for America ,s benefit. The United States has much it can gain and much it can learn from engaging and working with Africa.

As I said at the opening of my remarks, our global challenge is to discover a binding and powerful sense of human solidarity to unite us against global threats. In Market Theatre in Johannesburg, on the eve of the Inauguration of President Mandela, I remember talking with the Rev. Jesse Jackson about how Americans and Africans have worked together before -- in solidarity) to end discrimination and advance democracy.

In the last century, the NAACP was founded in 1909 and served as a model for the African National Congress, founded three years later. As the NAACP and the ANC pursued their fight against racial discrimination in Africa and in the United States, they shared tactics, and ideals, and inspiration with one another.

In this century, how do we preserve and deepen that sense of solidarity? How do we work together not just to end war and keep peace, and promote freedom -- but to continue the fight against racism, which Julius Nyerere once called the &mother of war, and suffering, and loss of freedom. 8

We must begin with engagement. Only by understanding and pursuing our common interest can we build the trust we need to cooperate against global threats. It is in our interest to engage with Africa, not just because Africa ,s peace and prosperity can enhance ours; but because it will always be in our interest to have a partner whose ways of looking at the world, can add to our understanding of the world as we seek to bring peace and prosperity to the world.

Ten years ago last week, early on a Sunday morning -- Washington time -- I sat in wonder and watched Nelson Mandela walk out of his prison cell on Robben Island (. free at last. Only my son was there awake with me. He was six years old. And I remember thinking then how often a parent has the burden of answering the infinite &Whys? 8 from their children. Why do people hurt other people? Why is there war? Why is there prejudice and hatred? But on that day, as he asked me &why, dad? 8) I responded with overflowing joy: &because, son, sometimes we can make our dreams come true. 8

Last summer, Tipper and I became grandparents for the first time) a grandson, born on the fourth of July. And my mind has looked out on the horizon he will inhabit. Far sooner than we imagine, he will begin quizzing his parents &why? 8 &Why is the world that way, mom? 8 &Why do people act that way, dad? 8 I look forward to the day when they can

answer, when you can answer, when all parents can answer: &Why do people act that way? (... Because, my child, we have finally learned to live in peace; we have finally learned to share prosperity; we have finally learned to embrace diversity; we have finally learned to respect difference. Because, my child, we have finally overcome. 8

Thank you. God bless America. And God bless our partners in Africa.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Margaret M. Suntum (CN=Margaret M. Suntum/OU=WHO/O=EOP [WHO])

CREATION DATE/TIME:17-FEB-2000 12:59:54.00

SUBJECT: remarks of the President at opening of Africa Summit

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TEXT:
THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For

Immediate Release

February 17, 2000

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT
TO OPENING OF NATIONAL SUMMIT ON AFRICA

Washington Convention Center
Washington, D.C.

10:50 A.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you very, very much. It's a wonderful thing to be introduced by an old friend. Old friends and people you have appointed to office will tell false, good stories about you every time. (Laughter.)

Africa never had a better friend in America than Andrew Young, and I thank him. (Applause.) I want to say I'm honored to be in the presence today of so many distinguished Africans. Secretary Salim, thank you for your visionary remarks and your leadership. President Moi, thank you for

coming to the United States and for giving me another chance to visit with you and for the work we have done together. Vice President Abubakar, thank you for what you are doing in Nigeria to give that great country its true promise at long last. We thank you, sir. (Applause.)

I welcome all our distinguished guests from Africa: Mrs. Taylor, foreign ministers, ambassadors. I thank all the Americans who are here, beginning with Andy's wife, who puts up with this relentless travel of his around Africa. Mayor Williams, thank you for welcoming us to Washington. There are three members of our Congress here today representing what I hope will be a stronger and stronger bipartisan commitment to the future of Africa: Congressman Royce and Congresswoman Barbara Lee and Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, I thank you for being here. (Applause.)

I want to thank Leonard Robinson and Herschelle Challenor and all the people responsible for this remarkable conference. Thank you, Noah Samara and thank you, Bishop Ricard, for being here. And I want to say a special word of appreciation to all the people in our administration who have worked so hard to give us an Africa policy that we can be proud of, that I hope will light up the path for America's future.

I know that Secretary Slater has already spoken here. Our AID Director, Brady Anderson, will speak. Our Vice President will be here. You said, Secretary Salim, you hope future administrations will follow our lead in Africa. I know one that would. (Laughter and applause.)

I want to thank Susan Rice at the State Department, Sandy Berger, Gayle Smith, all the people in our White House, all the ones who have helped us here. (Applause.)

Secretary Salim said Africa lacks a strong constituency in the United States. Well, I open this National Summit on Africa with a simple message: Africa does matter to the United States. (Applause.)

Of whatever background Americans claim -- Leonard Robinson told me when I came here, we even have 17 delegates from Utah here. There they are, you see? (Laughter and applause.) Africa matters not simply because 30 million Americans trace their heritage to Africa, though that is profoundly important. (Applause.) Not simply because we have a strong interest in a stable and prosperous Africa -- though 13 percent of our oil comes from Africa, and there are 700 million producers and consumers in sub-Saharan Africa, though that is important. Africa's future matters because the 21st century world has been transformed, and our views and actions must be transformed accordingly.

For most of history, the central reality in international relations was that size and location matter most. If you were a big country or on a trade or invasion route, you mattered. If not, you are marginalized. The average American child growing up in the past saw African nations as colorful flags and exotic names on a map, perhaps read books about the wonderful animals and great adventures. When colonialism ended, the colors on the flags were changed and there were more names on the map. But the countries did not seem nearer to most Americans.

That has all changed now. For the central reality of our time is globalization. It is tearing down barriers between nations and people; knowledge, contact and trade across borders within and between every continent are exploding. And all this globalization is also, as the barriers come down, making us more vulnerable to one another's problems: to the shock of economic turmoil, to the spread of conflict, to pollution and, as we have painfully seen, to disease; the terrorists, the drug traffickers, the criminals who can also take advantage of new technologies and globalization, the openness of societies and borders.

Globalization means we know more about one another than ever before. You may see the Discovery Channel in Africa. I was thinking of that when that little film was on. The Discovery Channel followed me to Africa and talked about how they were building communications networks in African schools to share knowledge and information. We can find out

within seconds now what the weather is in Nairobi, how a referendum turned out in Zimbabwe, how Cameroon's indomitable Lions performed in the latest soccer match. (Laughter and applause.) We can go online and read the Addis Tribune, the Mirror of Ghana, the East African, or dozens of other African newspapers. We sit in front of a television and watch people in a South African township line up to vote.

We also, now, bear witness to the slaughter of innocents in Rwanda, or the ravages of AIDS in scores of lands, or the painful coincidence of remarkable growth and abject poverty in nation after nation. In other words, it is no longer an option for us to choose not to know about the triumphs and the trials of the people with whom we share this small planet. Not just America and Africa; I would imagine millions of Africans identified with the Muslims of Kosovo when they were run out of their country, all of them at one time. We know about each other; we can no longer choose not to know. We can only choose not to act, or to act. (Applause.)

In this world, we can be indifferent or we can make a difference. America must choose, when it comes to Africa, to make a difference. (Applause.) Because we want to live in a world which is not dominated by a division of people who live on the cutting edge of a new economy and others who live on the bare edge of survival, we must be involved in Africa. Because we want to broaden global growth and expand markets for our own people, we must be involved in Africa. Because we want to build a world in which our security is not threatened by the spread of armed conflict, in which bitter ethnic and religious differences are resolved by the force of argument, not the force of arms, we must be involved in Africa.

Because we want to build a world where terrorists and criminals have no place to hide, and where those who wish harm to ordinary people cannot acquire the means to do them harm, we must be involved in Africa. Because we want to build a world in which we can harness our natural resources for economic growth without destroying the environment, so that future generations will also have the chance to do the same, we must be involved in Africa. (Applause.)

That is why I set out in 1993, at the beginning of my presidency, to build new ties between the United States and Africa; why we had the first White House conference, the ministerial and that wonderful trip in the spring of 1998, that I will remember for the rest of my life. (Applause.)

I went to Africa as a friend, to create a partnership. And we have made significant progress. There are challenges that are profound, but in the last two years we have seen thousands of triumphs large and small. Often, they don't make the headlines because the slow, steady progress of democracy and prosperity is not the stuff of headlines.

But, for example, I wish every American knew that last year the world's fastest-growing economy was Mozambique. Botswana was second, Angola fourth. (Applause.) I wish every American knew that and understood that that potential is in every African nation. It would make a difference. We must know these things about one another.

People know all about Africa's conflicts, but how many know that thousands of African soldiers are trying to end those conflicts as peacekeepers -- and that Nigeria alone, amidst all its difficulties, has spent \$10 billion in these peacekeeping efforts? (Applause.)

For years, Africa's wealthiest country, South Africa, and its most populous, Nigeria, cast long, forbidding shadows across the continent. Last year, South Africa's remarkable turnaround continued as its people transferred power from one elected president to another. Nigeria inaugurated a democratically elected president for the first time in decades. It is working to ensure that its wealth strengthens its people, not their oppressors. These are good news stories. They may not be in the headlines, but they should be in our hearts and our minds as we think of the future. (Applause.)

No one here, no one in our government, is under any illusions. There is still a lot of work to be done. Hardly anyone disagrees about what is needed: genuine democracy, good government, open markets, sustained investment in education and health and the environment -- and more than anything, widespread peace. All depend, fundamentally and first, on African leadership. (Applause.) These things cannot be imported, and they certainly cannot be imposed from outside.

But we must also face a clear reality: even countries making the right policy choices still have to struggle to deliver for their people. Each African government has to walk down its own road to reform and renewal. But it is a hard road. And those of us who are in a position to do so must do our part to smooth that road, to remove some of the larger barriers, so that Africa can fully share in the benefits and the responsibilities of globalization.

I tell the American people all the time, and they're probably tired of hearing it now, that I have a very simple political philosophy: everybody counts, everybody has a role to play, everybody deserves a chance. And we all do better when we help each other. That is a rule we ought to follow with Africa. (Applause.)

There are five steps in particular I believe we must take. First, we must build an open world trading system which will benefit Africa alongside every other region in the world. (Applause.) Open markets are indispensable to raising living standards. From the 1970s to the 1990s, developing countries that chose trade grew at least twice as fast as those that chose not to open to the world.

Now, there are some who doubt that the poorest countries will benefit if we continue to open markets, but they should ask themselves: what will happen to workers in South Africa and Kenya without the jobs that come from selling the fruit of their labors abroad? What will happen to farmers in Zimbabwe and Ghana if protectionist farm subsidies make it impossible for them to sell beyond their borders?

Trade must not be a race to the bottom, whether we're talking about child labor, harsh working conditions or environmental degradation. But neither can we use fear to keep the poorest part of the global community stuck at the bottom forever. Africa has already taken important steps, forming regional trade blocks like ECOWAS, the East Africa Community, and SADC. But we can do more. That is why our Overseas Private Investment Corporation in Africa is working to support three times as many business projects in 1999 than it did in 1998, to create jobs for Africans and, yes, for Americans as well. That is why we are working with African nations to develop the institutions to sustain future growth -- from efficient telecommunications to the financial sector.

And that is why, as soon as possible, we must enact in our Congress the bipartisan Africa Growth and Opportunity Act. (Applause.) This bill has passed in one version in our House and another version in our Senate. I urge the Congress to resolve the differences and send me a bill for signature by next month. (Applause.) And I ask every one of you here who just clapped -- and those who didn't, but sympathize with the clapped -- (laughter) -- to contact anyone you know in the United States Congress and ask them to do this. This is a job that needs to be done. (Applause.)

We must also realize that trade alone cannot conquer poverty or build a partnership we need. For that reason, a second step we must take is to continue the work now underway to provide debt relief to African nations committed to sound policies. (Applause.) Struggling democratic governments should not have to choose between feeding and educating their children and paying interest on a debt. (Applause.) Last March, I suggested a way we could expand debt relief for the world's poorest and most indebted countries, most of which are African, and ensure the resources would be used to improve economic opportunity for ordinary African citizens. Our G-7 partners embraced that plan.

Still, I felt we should do more. So in September, I announced that we would completely write off all the debts owed to us by the countries that qualified for the G-7 program -- as many as 27 African nations in all. The first countries, including Uganda and Mauritania, have begun to receive the benefits. Mozambique, Benin, Senegal and Tanzania are expected to receive benefits soon. Mozambique's debt is expected to go down by more than \$3 billion. The money saved will be twice the health budget -- twice the health budget -- in a country where children are more likely to die before the age of five than they are to go on to secondary school.

Last year, I asked Congress for \$970 million for debt relief. Many of you helped to persuade our Congress to appropriate a big share of that. Keep in mind, this is a program religious leaders say is a moral imperative, and leading economists say is a practical imperative. It's not so often that you get the religious leaders and the economists telling us that good business is good morals. (Applause.) It's probably always true, but they don't say it all that often. (Laughter.) We must finish the job this year; we must continue this work to provide aggressive debt relief to the countries that are doing the right thing, that will take the money and reinvest it in their people and their future. I ask you, especially the Americans in this audience, if you believe in what brought you here, help us to continue this important effort. (Applause.)

A third step we must take is to give better and deeper support to African education. Literacy is crucial -- to economic growth, to health, to democracy, to securing the benefits of globalization. Sub-Saharan Africa has the developing world's lowest school enrollment rate. In Zambia, over half the schoolchildren lack a simple notebook. In rural parts of Tanzania, there is one textbook for every 20 children. That's why I proposed in our budget to increase by more than 50 percent the assistance we provide to developing countries to improve basic education, targeting areas where child labor is prevalent. I ask other nations to join us in this. (Applause.)

I'll never forget the schools I visited on my trip to Africa -- the bright lights in the eyes of the children, how intelligent they were, how eager they were. It is wrong for them to have to look at maps of nations that no longer exist, without maps of nations in their own continent that do exist. It is wrong for them to be deprived the same opportunities to learn that our young people have here. If intelligence is equally distributed throughout the human race -- and I believe it is -- then every child in the human race ought to have a chance to develop his or her intelligence in every country in the world. (Applause.)

A fourth step we must take is to fight the terrible diseases that have afflicted so many millions of Africans, especially AIDS and also TB and malaria. Last year, ten times as many people died of AIDS in Africa as were killed in all the continent's wars combined. It will soon double child mortality and reduce life expectancy by 20 years.

You all laughed when Andy Young said that I was going to get out of the presidency as a young man. Depending on the day, I sometimes feel young or I feel that I'm the oldest man my age in America. (Laughter.) The life expectancy in this country has gone from 47 to 77 in the 20th century. An American who lives to be 65 has a life expectancy in excess of 82 years. AIDS is going to reduce the life expectancy in Africa by 20 years. And even that understates the problem, because the people that escape it will live longer lives as African economies grow and strengthen.

The worst burden in life any adult can bear is to see a child die before you. The worst problem in Africa now is that so many of these children with AIDS have also already lost their parents. We must do something about this. In Africa there are companies that are hiring two employees for every job on the assumption that one of them will die. This is a humanitarian issue, a political issue and an economic issue.

Last month, Vice President Gore opened the first-ever United Nations Security Council session on health issues, on a health issue, by addressing the AIDS crisis in Africa. I've asked Congress for another

\$100 million to fight the epidemic, bringing our total to \$325 million. I've asked my administration to develop a plan for new initiatives to address prevention, the financial dimensions of fighting AIDS, the needs of those affected, so that we can make it clear to our African partners that we consider AIDS not just their burden but ours, as well.

But even that will not be enough. Recently, Uganda's Health Minister pointed out that to provide access to currently available treatments to every Ugandan afflicted with AIDS would cost \$24 billion. The annual budget of Uganda is \$2 billion.

The solution to this crisis, and to other killer diseases like malaria and TB, has to include effective and expensive vaccines. Now, there are four major companies in the world that develop vaccines, two in the United States and two in Europe. They have little incentive to make costly investments in developing vaccines for people who cannot afford to pay for them. So in my State of the Union address, I proposed a generous tax credit that would enable us to say to private industry, if you develop vaccines for AIDS, malaria and TB, we will help to pay for them. So go on and develop them, and we'll save millions of lives. (Applause.)

But I have to tell you, my speech -- and I don't want anybody else but me to be responsible; my speechwriters were so sensitive, they didn't put this in the speech. But I want to say this: AIDS was a bigger problem in the United States a few years ago than it is today. AIDS rates are not going up in African countries, all African countries. They're actually going down in a couple of African countries.

Now, I know that this is a difficult and sensitive issue. I know there are cultural and religious factors that make it very difficult to tackle this issue from a preventive point of view. We don't have an AIDS vaccine yet. We have drugs that will help to prevent the transmission from pregnant mothers to their children, which I want to be able to give out. We have other drugs that have given people with AIDS in our country normal lives, in terms of their health and the length of their lives. I want those to be available.

But the real answer is to stop people from getting the HIV virus in the first place. (Applause.)

I got to see firsthand some of the things that were being done in Uganda that were instrumental in driving down the AIDS rate. Now, I don't care how hard or delicate or difficult this is; this is your children's lives we're talking about. (Applause.) You know, we who are adults, when our children's lives are at stake, have to get over whatever our hang-ups or problems are and go out there and do what is necessary to save the lives of our children. (Applause.)

And I'll help you do that, too. That's not free; that costs money. Systems have to be set up. But we shouldn't pretend that we can give injections and work our way out of this. We have to change behavior, attitudes. And it has to be done in an organized, disciplined, systematic way. And you can do more in less time for less money in a preventive way, to give the children of Africa their lives back, and the nations of Africa their futures back, with an aggressive prevention campaign than anything else. And there is no excuse for not doing it; it has to be done. (Applause.)

Finally, let me say there is one more huge obstacle to progress in Africa, that we are committed to doing our part to overcome. We must build on the leadership of Africans to end the bloody conflicts killing people and killing progress. (Applause.)

You know the toll: tens of thousands of young lives lost in the war between Ethiopia and Eritrea; thousands killed and disfigured at unbelievably young ages in the civil war that nearly destroyed Sierra Leone; 2 million killed by famine and war in Sudan, where government sees diversity as a threat rather than a strength, and denies basic relief to citizens it claims to represent.

Most of the world's conflicts pale in complexity before the situation in the Congo. At least seven nations and countless armed groups are pitted there against each other in a desperate struggle that seems to bring no one victory, and everyone misery -- especially the innocent people of the Congo. They deserve a better chance. Secretary Albright has called the Congo struggle Africa's first world war. As we search for an end to the conflict, let us remember the central lesson of the First World War: the need for a good peace. If you mess up the peace, you get another world war.

A year ago, I said if the nations of the region reached an agreement that the international community could support, I would support a peacekeeping operation in the Congo. The region has now done so. The Lusaka cease-fire agreement takes into account the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Congo; the withdrawal of foreign forces; the security of Congo's neighbors; the need for dialogue within the nation; and most important, the need for the countries within Central Africa to cooperate in managing the region's security. It is more than a cease-fire; it is a blueprint for building peace. Best of all, it is a genuinely African solution to an African problem.

There is still fighting in Congo. Peace will not happen overnight. It will require steady commitment from the parties and the unwavering support of the international community. I have told our Congress that America intends to do its part by supporting the next phase of the U.N.'s peacekeeping operation in the Congo, which will send observers to oversee the implementation of the agreement.

We need to think hard about what is at stake here. African countries have taken the lead -- not just the countries directly affected, either. They are not asking us to solve their problems or to deploy our military. All they have asked is that we support their own efforts to build peace, and to make it last. We in the United States should be willing to do this. It is principled and practical.

I know -- I see the members of Congress here. I say again -- I see Congressman Payne, Congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee, Congresswoman Barbara Lee, Congressman Royce -- we need to stand by the people of Africa who have decided how to solve this most complex and troubling problem. (Applause.) We have learned the hard way in the United States, over decades and decades, that the costliest peace is far cheaper than the cheapest war. And we need to remember that as we approach our common responsibilities in central Africa.

Finally, let me say that I intend to continue to work hard on these things for every day that I am President. For me, the remarkable decade of the 1990s began with the liberation symbolized by Nelson Mandela's first steps from Robben Island. (Applause.) In a few days, I will have the opportunity to join by satellite the conference in Tanzania that President Mandela is organizing to build peace in Burundi.

A lot of people look at Africa and think, oh, these problems are just too complicated. I look at Africa and I see the promise of Africa, and think, if the problems are complicated now, think how much worse they'll be if we continue to ignore them. (Applause.)

Other people grow frustrated by bad news, and wish only to hear good news. But empty optimism does Africa no more service than groundless cynicism. What we need is not empty optimism or groundless cynicism, but realistic hope. We need to see the promise, the beauty, the dreams of Africa. We need to see the problems clear and plain, and stop ignoring the evident responses. We in the United States need to understand that our obligations to be good partners with Africa are not because we are certain that everything will turn out all right, but because it is important. Because we're human beings, we can never expect everything to turn out all right.

Africa is so incredibly diverse. Its people speak nearly 3,000 languages. It is not a single, monolithic place with single, monolithic truths. A place of many places, each defined by its own history and

aspirations, its own successes and failures. I was struck on my trip to Africa by the differences between Ghana and Uganda, Botswana and Senegal -- between Capetown and Soweto. I was also struck by what bound people together in these places.

In George Washington's first draft of his Farewell Address, he wrote, "we may all be considered as the children of one common country." The more I think about globalization and the interdependence it promises and demands, the more I share that sentiment. Now, we must think of ourselves as children of one common world. If we wish to deepen peace and prosperity and democracy for ourselves, we must wish it also for the people of Africa. Africa is the cradle of humanity, but also a big part of humanity's future.

I leave you with this thought: when I think of the troubles of Africa, rooted in tribal differences; when I think of the continuing troubles in America, across racial lines, rooted in the shameful way we brought slaves here from West Africa so long ago, and our continuing challenges as we integrate wave after wave after wave of new immigrants from new places around the world; I am struck by the fact that life's greatest joy is our common humanity, and life's greatest curse is our inability to see our common humanity.

In Africa, life is full of joy and difficulty. But for too long, the African people have lacked for friends and allies to help the joys overcome the difficulties. The United States will be a friend for life.

Thank you. (Applause.)

END

11:28 A.M. EST

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Eli G. Attie (CN=Eli G. Attie/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:17-FEB-2000 12:40:17.00

SUBJECT: draft of Africa speech

TO: Antony J. Blinken (CN=Antony J. Blinken/OU=NSC/O=EOP@EOP [NSC])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

----- Forwarded by Eli G. Attie/OVP on 02/17/2000 12:40
PM -----

Thomas M. Rosshirt
02/17/2000 11:55:43 AM
Record Type: Record

To: Eli G. Attie/OVP@OVP
cc:
Subject:draft of Africa speech

Vice President Al Gore
National Summit on Africa
February 18, 2000 (Independence day for The Gambia)
DRAFT THURSDAY 12 PM

It is an historic moment in U.S. foreign relations when thousands of Americans gather together in the nation ,s capital to put forward a plan to improve understanding and cooperation between the United States and Africa. This national summit proves that here in America there is a mobile and motivated national constituency for Africa -- a constituency that can make news, make noise, and make a difference in shaping our Africa policy. I want to acknowledge the breadth and sophistication of the agenda you put forward, and I want to commend the delegates for stating clearly a fundamental principle of foreign policy -- that international stability is not possible in the face of massive economic and social disparities. Congratulations and thank you.

Your path-breaking efforts come not a moment too soon. We Americans have entered an age that is filled with hope and promise and boundless opportunity. But we have also entered an age with risks, an age that will be far less forgiving of narrow notions of our national interest than any we have seen in the past.

As we enter the 21st century, we must see America ,s security -- and world security -- through a new and wider prism. In the past century we have seen wars among nations, and wars within nations) because of the false conceit of religious or racial superiority; because of lust for power; because of a sense that the world was too small to allow for the survival and prosperity of all; because of the tendency we have as humans to group up -- and thus to fear, demonize and dehumanize other groups. We have seen how, in this century, poverty) or more accurately, the collapse of hopes and dreams, can make people desperate, and open to evil leadership.

Amidst all these ancient threats, there are new forces arising that now or soon will challenge the international order, raising issues of war and peace, wealth and poverty, health and disease, order or chaos.

These new forces change completely the calculus of international engagement. In an earlier age, disengaging from the world would have been thoughtless; today it is unthinkable.

Together, as a family of nations, we must face the global environmental challenge; the global challenge of fighting drugs and crime and corruption; the global threat of pandemics laying waste to whole societies; the global challenge of economic growth, and making its prosperity felt by the least well-off; the global challenge of designing a fundamentally new and democratic order for acquiring knowledge. Most of all, and underlying it all, we face the global challenge of discovering a binding sense of solidarity to unite us against our common threats -- because today ,s threats are challenges all nations face together and no nation can solve on its own.

Even in the face of the world ,s obvious interdependence, there is still opposition to our investment and engagement in Africa. Seeing only the challenges and ignoring the opportunities, some cynics stuck in the foreign policy of the past say America can do nothing for Africa and can gain nothing from Africa.

They could not be more mistaken. We must not only continue our work with Africa, but expand our work with Africa) and broaden and deepen and widen the minds of those who would stand in our way: First, because Africa is enjoying an historic spread of democracy and economic growth. Second, because U.S. engagement can help accelerate African progress. And third, because America has much to gain from African success, and much to learn from African experience.

Over the past decade, Africa has been enjoying a renaissance. A rising wave of African nations has moved from dictatorship to democracy, embraced economic reform, opened markets, privatized enterprises, stabilized currencies. Economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa has tripled, creating prospects for a higher quality of life across the continent. More than half the nations of Africa now elect their own leaders, nearly four times the number 10 years ago.

Many nations are overcoming age-old conflicts and turning their energy and resources toward building their economies, and raising the quality of life for their people. And Africa is young. The majority of its population is under 17. A rising percentage of the population has been born to Democracy. With improved education and expanding access to knowledge and information, this generation will intensify the struggle for freedom, equality, and prosperity.

In the midst of Africa ,s fresh success in democratic strength and economic growth, I believe that American investment can make a decisive difference in accelerating that progress.

Let me outline, very briefly, several areas of U.S.-Africa joint action that will pay important dividends in the years ahead.

AIDS: As Congressman Payne noted, I was honored last month to chair the United Nations Security Council ,s historic meeting on AIDS) the first Security Council meeting of the millennium, and the first ever devoted to the discussion of a health issue. There I announced our second successive \$100 million increase in the fight against global AIDS. I

announced \$50 million from our budget to help fund the research, purchase, and distribution of lifesaving vaccines in developing nations. And I announced my plans to convene a meeting of U.S. business leaders active in Africa, to help make the workplace an effective place for the education and prevention of AIDS. I hope and believe some of you here will work with me in that effort. We must intensify our global battle against AIDS, or it will undercut the historic progress taking place today in Africa.

Trade and Investment: As you also know, I am a strong supporter of the African Growth and Opportunity Act, as you are, and as is -- unanimously -- the African Diplomatic Corps. I will work hard to see it pass. I will work hard to find additional opportunities to increase trade and investment with Africa.

Debt Relief: I think one of the most important efforts we can undertake to support democracy and economic growth in Africa is to extend debt relief (and encourage other creditors to extend debt relief) to help new democracies climb out of the debt dug for them by past dictators. It is the right thing to do -- economically, strategically, morally.

Peacekeeping: I strongly support efforts to bring new partners into the African Crisis Response Initiative to support their training for humanitarian and peacekeeping challenges in Africa and around the world. I also support continued U.S. efforts in conflict resolution in Africa and elsewhere.

Education: I strongly support giving millions more African young people the education they need to compete in the global economy. That includes greater efforts to link Africa to the Internet and give young students and entrepreneurs the educational and commercial advantages that come with it.

Democracy: I wholeheartedly support efforts to build and strengthen democracy in Africa -- not just by holding elections, but by establishing rule of law and building the democratic institutions that help create opportunity, prevent conflict, and achieve justice for all.

All these investments by the United States can make an important impact on the quality of life for millions of Africans. But our investment in Africa is not for charity; it is for national security. It is not solely for Africa's benefit; it is for America's benefit. The United States has much it can gain and much it can learn from engaging Africa.

Cynics and isolationists will ask: What does America, the world's greatest military and economic power, have to gain and learn from Africa?

First, let me state the obvious. It is in America's interest to have stable and prosperous partners in Africa who will trade with us, who will cooperate with us on security matters, who will work with us to fight crime and keep peace, who will declare war of corruption, and terrorism, and drug-trafficking, who will work with us to preserve the global environment. But it is also in our interest to have a partner whose values, whose ways of looking at the world, can complement our own, and add to our understanding of the world as we seek to bring peace and prosperity to the world.

You here today know, as too many do not, the rich political and cultural history of Africa. Our most remote ancestors -- yours, mine, and everyone's -- originated in Africa around 7 million years ago, and Africa

was the sole cradle of human evolution for millions of years.

The great bend of the Niger River in West Africa was home to one of the first known settled agricultural communities, and has been a center of West African Civilization for 4000 years.

From the ninth century a large urban society flourished in modern day Zimbabwe. They left behind massive stone structures cut and placed with such precision that Europeans -- centuries later -- invented historical fantasies to explain the structures, so skeptical were they that Africans had been capable of such feats of engineering.

From 1200 to 1400, the Kingdom of Mali was known throughout the Islamic world and Europe for its wealth and power. When its ruler, Mansa Musa, was traveling through Egypt on his pilgrimage to Mecca in the early 1300s, his entourage was carrying so much precious metal that the bottom fell out of the Cairo gold market.

Africa has many accomplishments unknown to many Americans, but just as important as its accomplishments, has been its cultivation -- across the 3,000 ethnic groups of Africa -- of a distinctively African respect for family and community.

If the world had been wiser these past centuries; it would have taken from Africa not its valuables, but its values. We can see Africa's emphasis on family and community in most every element of everyday life. It is common practice in Africa for a young person's school tuition to be paid not by his mother and father only, but by a dozen adults in his extended family. It is common practice in Africa for many communities to have coming-of-age celebrations where the whole community comes to support the teenagers as they assume adulthood.

It is common practice in Africa to greet children with uncommon affection, and reach out to care for the community's children across lines of family and parentage. And it is common practice in Africa to extend extraordinary respect and deference to one's elders to honor the wisdom that comes from experience. Indeed, one African proverb says: "When an elder dies, it is as if a whole library had burned down." 8

These values of family and community distinguish the African outlook. Indeed Jomo Kenyatta, the illustrious predecessor of President Moi, wrote in his book "Facing Mount Kenya": "While the Westerner asserts that character formation is the chief thing, he forgets that character is formed primarily through relations with other people ... this is perhaps the most fundamental difference in outlook between Africans and Europeans." 8

In fact, we need to relearn and replant and nurture the values of family and community here in America; and we need to build the institutions and economies that allow these values to flourish in Africa. A worldwide revival of these values may well be decisive in our efforts to face together the challenges of the new century.

As I said at the opening of my remarks, our global challenge is to discover a binding and powerful sense of human solidarity to unite us against global threats. It is this solidarity that must save us. It is this solidarity that Africa can help teach us.

In Market Theatre in Johannesburg, on the eve of the Inauguration of President Mandela, I remember talking with the Rev. Jesse Jackson about

how Americans and Africans have worked together before -- in solidarity -- on the great questions of equality and justice.

In the last century, the NAACP was founded in 1909 and served as a model for the African National Congress, founded three years later. As the NAACP and the ANC pursued their fight against racial discrimination in Africa and in the United States, they shared tactics, and ideals, and inspiration with one another. In this century, how do we preserve and deepen that sense of solidarity? How do we eliminate racism, mitigate its effects, and create opportunity for people who have long been denied? In the United States, it is a minority of the population; in Africa a majority of the population, but in both places an indispensable part of the population. How do we lift them up?

In this new century, courage, foresight, and freedom can come together in a moment of choice to change our world) but only if all nations who seek a newer world begin behaving like a family that shares the same values, the same children, the same earth, the same future. It is time to change the way we live together on this planet.

Ten years ago last week, early on a Sunday morning -- Washington time -- I sat in wonder and watched Nelson Mandela walk out of his prison cell on Robben Island (. free at last. Only my son was there awake with me. He was six years old. And I remember thinking then how often a parent has the burden of answering the infinite &Whys? 8 from their children. Why do people hurt other people? Why is there war? Why is there prejudice and hatred? But on that day, as he asked me &why, dad? 8) I responded with overflowing joy: &because, son, sometimes we can make our dreams come true. 8

Last summer, Tipper and I became grandparents for the first time) a grandson, born on the fourth of July. And my mind has looked out on the horizon he will inhabit. Far sooner than we imagine, he will begin quizzing his parents &why? 8 &Why is the world that way, mom? 8 &Why do people act that way, dad? 8 I look forward to the day when they can answer, when you can answer, when all parents can answer: &Why do people act that way? (.. Because, my child, we have finally learned to live in peace; we have finally learned to share prosperity; we have finally learned to embrace diversity; we have finally learned to respect difference. Because, my child, we have finally overcome. 8

Thank you. God bless America. And God bless our partners in Africa.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:17-FEB-2000 18:31:32.00

SUBJECT: draft

TO: Eli G. Attie (CN=Eli G. Attie/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Vice President Al Gore
National Summit on Africa
Friday, February 18, 2000
Draft 700 pm

It is an historic moment in U.S. foreign relations when thousands of Americans gather together in the nation's capital to put forward a plan to improve understanding and cooperation between the United States and Africa. This national summit proves that, here in America, there is a motivated national constituency for Africa -- a constituency that can make news, make noise, and make a difference in shaping our Africa policy.

I want to acknowledge the breadth and sophistication of the agenda you have put forward. And I want to commend the delegates for stating clearly this fundamental principle of foreign policy: international stability is not possible in the face of massive economic and social disparities. Together, we must work to close those disparities) because it is in our national interest, and because it is right for Africa and for the world.

I believe this path-breaking effort comes not a moment too soon. For as we open a new century, we mark an era of new security threats around the world) one that demands that we change the very nature of the way we live together on this planet. Of course, we must still meet the old threats to our national security: the threat of aggression and armed conflict. The challenge of spreading democracy and freedom throughout the world.

But we face new challenges as well. We face global environmental challenges) and new threats of drugs and crime and corruption that spill across borders. We face a global challenge of terror, magnified by the availability of weapons of mass destruction so small, they can be concealed in a coat pocket. We face new global pandemics such as HIV and AIDS, which threaten to lay waste to whole societies. In an increasingly global economy, we face the challenge of sustained and sustainable economic growth -- and how to extend it to those nations and peoples that are the least well-off.

Our task is not merely to recognize and confront these new challenges, but to rise to our higher ideals. We must seek a world of security for all) security not only from loss of life and the ravages of war, but security from constant fear and degradation, and from a loss of the quality of life and liberty of spirit that should belong to all.

Nowhere is this challenge more important than in Africa. And that is why America needs a stable and prosperous Africa in the 21st Century. It is manifestly in America's interest to have stable and prosperous partners in Africa -- who will work with us to promote freedom and democracy, increase trade and investment, fight crime and keep peace, declare war on terrorists and narco-traffickers, and work with us to preserve the global

environment.

Today, we have a better chance than ever to form important partnerships in Africa. In the past decade, a rising wave of African nations has moved from dictatorship to democracy. More than half the nations of Africa now elect their own leaders) a number that has quadrupled in the past decade. Because these nations are finally overcoming age-old conflicts, they can turn their energy and resources toward building their economies, and raising the quality of life for their people. I believe we must seize this opportunity to work with them) to strengthen democracy and promote peace and stability throughout the region.

Today, more and more African nations are embracing economic reform, opening their markets, privatizing enterprises, and stabilizing their currencies. Economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa has tripled, creating prospects for a higher quality of life across the continent. I believe we must rise to this moment) to deepen our economic ties and strengthen the free markets that are just now taking hold.

And for all the opportunities Africa presents, we must work together to confront its challenges: the threat of HIV/AIDS, the lack of education, the burden of poverty and hunger, which freeze human hopes and kill the human spirit. Unless the African people find a way to meet these challenges, they will never be able to fulfill the promise of freedom, equality, and prosperity. In this respect, social justice and economic opportunity are critical to our international security in the 21st Century.

I know that some look at Africa today and see only the challenges, not the opportunities. Some cynics, stuck in the foreign policy of the past, say America can do little for Africa and gain little from Africa.

They could not be more mistaken. In the past, disengaging from Africa would have been thoughtless. Today it is unthinkable. We must not only continue our work with Africa, we must expand our work with Africa) and we must broaden the understanding of those who would stand in our way.

I believe there are several critical areas where American investment and engagement can make a decisive and enduring difference for Africa, for America, and for our global security and stability.

Global Economy:

Africa is the world ,s greatest untapped market for American goods. And Africa ,s best chance for prosperity is giving their businesses a chance to sell their goods on the world market. We must work with them to boost their economy, improve their access to information technology, and enhance trade and investment between Africa, the United States, and the world. Making Africa more attractive to outside investment is the number one way we know to quickly import the capital, the training, and the technology it will take to increase economic opportunity across the continent.

I strongly support the African Growth and Opportunity Act, and I will work hard for its passage. I thank the National Summit on Africa for its support of the bill, and I commend the African Diplomatic Corp for its energetic advocacy of the legislation and its unanimous support.

I also strongly support our efforts to extend the infrastructure and training Africans need to take advantage of 21st century technology, so new technology creates new opportunities and not new divisions in our

economy.

At the same time, no nation can compete in the global economy without top-quality education. We need to assist African efforts to provide quality education to millions more young people so they have the chance to raise the economic prospects of the families and communities.

Peace and Security:

No society can tap the full talents of its people in the midst of war and chaos. I stand strongly behind U.S. efforts to fund African conflict resolution and peacekeeping initiatives. I especially endorse the African Crisis Response Initiative which has already trained thousands of peacekeepers from among African military personnel. We should work hard to bring new partners into the African Crisis Response Initiative to support their training for humanitarian and peacekeeping challenges in Africa and around the world. A well-trained, well-equipped African peacekeeping effort will make an important difference in the security and stability of the region and the world. Make no mistake, an area that is ungoverned by a stable and elected government, that is controlled and patrolled only by armies and armed insurgents, is a possible haven for the kind of terrorists and narco-traffickers that present a threat to American security.

Promoting Democracy.

I believe that nothing has the potential to be more important and enduring to Africa's progress than our efforts to promote democracy on the continent. I am not talking about elections alone, though elections are an essential first step. I am talking about rule of law, independent judiciaries, free press, active, energetic NGOs, and transparent government.

Not only is Democracy the best embodiment of our dearest ideals of liberty and equality; it is the best guarantor of justice and human rights. Democracies are far superior to any other system of government for producing economic growth and political stability. Democracies are less likely to fight wars with each other and more likely to cooperate on security issues.

In the 1990s, Africa's richest nation and its most populous nation both embrace democracy. We need to continue efforts to support those democracies and encourage the spread of democracy, if we are to improve our chances of increasing peace and prosperity in Africa.

Fighting Disease:

We must come together to fight AIDS in Africa so it does not undercut the progress taking place across the continent. As Congressman Payne noted, I was honored last month to chair the United Nations Security Council's historic meeting on AIDS - the first Security Council meeting of the millennium, and the first ever devoted to the discussion of a health issue. There I announced our second successive \$100 million increase in the fight against global AIDS. I also announced \$50 million from our budget to help fund the research, purchase, and distribution of lifesaving vaccines in developing nations. And I announced my plans to convene a meeting of U.S. business leaders active in Africa, to help make the workplace an effective place for the education and prevention of AIDS. I hope and believe some of you here will work with me in that effort. We must intensify our global battle against AIDS, or it will undercut the

historic progress taking place today in Africa.

To win the ongoing battle against disease, we must also fight the poverty that speeds the spread of disease. For the health of the people, and the health of their economies, I believe one of the most important efforts we can undertake to support democracy and economic growth in Africa is to extend debt relief -- and encourage others to extend debt relief -- to help new democracies climb out of the debt dug for them by past dictators. It is the right thing to do -- economically, strategically, morally.

These investments by the United States can make an important impact on the quality of life for millions of Africans. But our investment in Africa is not for charity; it is for national security. It is not solely for Africa's benefit; it is for America's benefit. The United States has much it can gain and much it can learn from engaging and working with Africa.

Before I end my remarks, I want to talk for a minute about how engaging with Africa, and other nations of the world, can not only lead to accomplishments that enhance our prosperity and security, but can also lead to understanding and solidarity that can pave the way for bigger accomplishments.

In Market Theatre in Johannesburg, on the eve of the Inauguration of President Mandela, I remember talking with the Rev. Jesse Jackson about how Americans and Africans have worked together before -- in solidarity) to end discrimination and advance democracy.

In the last century, the NAACP was founded in 1909 and served as a model for the African National Congress, founded three years later. As the NAACP and the ANC pursued their fight against racial discrimination in Africa and in the United States, they shared tactics, and ideals, and inspiration with one another. The triumph of the ANC was the triumph of millions around the world united against the global threat of racial discrimination.

Ten years ago last week, early on a Sunday morning -- Washington time -- I sat in wonder and watched this triumph as Nelson Mandela walked out of his prison cell on Robben Island (. free at last. Only my son was there awake with me. He was six years old. And I remember thinking then how often a parent has the burden of answering the infinite &Whys? 8 from their children. Why do people hurt other people? Why is there war? Why is there prejudice and hatred? But on that day, as he asked me &why, dad? 8) I responded with overflowing joy: &because, son, sometimes we can make our dreams come true. 8

In this century, how do we preserve and deepen that sense of solidarity that made this dream come true? How do we eliminate racism, mitigate its effects, and create opportunity for people who have long been denied? In the United States, it is a minority of the population; in Africa a majority of the population, but in both places an indispensable part of the population. How do we lift them up?

In this new century, courage, foresight, and freedom can come together in a moment of choice to change our world) but only if all nations who seek a newer world begin behaving like a family that shares the same values, the same children, the same earth, the same future. It is time to change the way we live together on this planet.

As we seek this change, it will always be in our interest to do so in

partnership with Africa, whose ways of looking at the world can add to our understanding of the world, as we seek peace and prosperity for the world.

Thank you. God bless America. And God bless our partners in Africa.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:17-FEB-2000 11:55:52.00

SUBJECT: draft of Africa speech

TO: Eli G. Attie (CN=Eli G. Attie/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Vice President Al Gore

National Summit on Africa

February 18, 2000 (Independence day for The Gambia)

DRAFT THURSDAY 12 PM

It is an historic moment in U.S. foreign relations when thousands of Americans gather together in the nation's capital to put forward a plan to improve understanding and cooperation between the United States and Africa. This national summit proves that here in America there is a mobile and motivated national constituency for Africa -- a constituency that can make news, make noise, and make a difference in shaping our Africa policy. I want to acknowledge the breadth and sophistication of the agenda you put forward, and I want to commend the delegates for stating clearly a fundamental principle of foreign policy -- that international stability is not possible in the face of massive economic and social disparities. Congratulations and thank you.

Your path-breaking efforts come not a moment too soon. We Americans have entered an age that is filled with hope and promise and boundless opportunity. But we have also entered an age with risks, an age that will be far less forgiving of narrow notions of our national interest than any we have seen in the past.

As we enter the 21st century, we must see America's security -- and world security -- through a new and wider prism. In the past century we have seen wars among nations, and wars within nations) because of the false conceit of religious or racial superiority; because of lust for power; because of a sense that the world was too small to allow for the survival and prosperity of all; because of the tendency we have as humans to group up -- and thus to fear, demonize and dehumanize other groups. We have seen how, in this century, poverty) or more accurately, the collapse of hopes and dreams, can make people desperate, and open to evil leadership.

Amidst all these ancient threats, there are new forces arising that now or soon will challenge the international order, raising issues of war and peace, wealth and poverty, health and disease, order or chaos.

These new forces change completely the calculus of international engagement. In an earlier age, disengaging from the world would have been thoughtless; today it is unthinkable.

Together, as a family of nations, we must face the global environmental challenge; the global challenge of fighting drugs and crime and corruption; the global threat of pandemics laying waste to whole societies; the global challenge of economic growth, and making its prosperity felt by the least well-off; the global challenge of designing a fundamentally new and democratic order for acquiring knowledge. Most of

all, and underlying it all, we face the global challenge of discovering a binding sense of solidarity to unite us against our common threats -- because today ,s threats are challenges all nations face together and no nation can solve on its own.

Even in the face of the world ,s obvious interdependence, there is still opposition to our investment and engagement in Africa. Seeing only the challenges and ignoring the opportunities, some cynics stuck in the foreign policy of the past say America can do nothing for Africa and can gain nothing from Africa.

They could not be more mistaken. We must not only continue our work with Africa, but expand our work with Africa) and broaden and deepen and widen the minds of those who would stand in our way: First, because Africa is enjoying an historic spread of democracy and economic growth. Second, because U.S. engagement can help accelerate African progress. And third, because America has much to gain from African success, and much to learn from African experience.

Over the past decade, Africa has been enjoying a renaissance. A rising wave of African nations has moved from dictatorship to democracy, embraced economic reform, opened markets, privatized enterprises, stabilized currencies. Economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa has tripled, creating prospects for a higher quality of life across the continent. More than half the nations of Africa now elect their own leaders, nearly four times the number 10 years ago.

Many nations are overcoming age-old conflicts and turning their energy and resources toward building their economies, and raising the quality of life for their people. And Africa is young. The majority of its population is under 17. A rising percentage of the population has been born to Democracy. With improved education and expanding access to knowledge and information, this generation will intensify the struggle for freedom, equality, and prosperity.

In the midst of Africa ,s fresh success in democratic strength and economic growth, I believe that American investment can make a decisive difference in accelerating that progress.

Let me outline, very briefly, several areas of U.S.-Africa joint action that will pay important dividends in the years ahead.

AIDS: As Congressman Payne noted, I was honored last month to chair the United Nations Security Council ,s historic meeting on AIDS) the first Security Council meeting of the millennium, and the first ever devoted to the discussion of a health issue. There I announced our second successive \$100 million increase in the fight against global AIDS. I announced \$50 million from our budget to help fund the research, purchase, and distribution of lifesaving vaccines in developing nations. And I announced my plans to convene a meeting of U.S. business leaders active in Africa, to help make the workplace an effective place for the education and prevention of AIDS. I hope and believe some of you here will work with me in that effort. We must intensify our global battle against AIDS, or it will undercut the historic progress taking place today in Africa.

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Cynics and isolationists will ask: What does America, the world's greatest military and economic power, have to gain and learn from Africa?

First, let me state the obvious. It is in America's interest to have stable and prosperous partners in Africa who will trade with us, who will cooperate with us on security matters, who will work with us to fight crime and keep peace, who will declare war of corruption, and terrorism, and drug-trafficking, who will work with us to preserve the global environment. But it is also in our interest to have a partner whose values, whose ways of looking at the world, can complement our own, and add to our understanding of the world as we seek to bring peace and prosperity to the world.

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If the world had been wiser these past centuries; it would have taken from Africa not its valuables, but its values. We can see Africa's emphasis on family and community in most every element of everyday life. It is common practice in Africa for a young person's school tuition to be paid not by his mother and father only, but by a dozen adults in his extended family. It is common practice in Africa for many communities to have coming-of-age celebrations where the whole community comes to support the teenagers as they assume adulthood.

It is common practice in Africa to greet children with uncommon affection, and reach out to care for the community's children across lines of family and parentage. And it is common practice in Africa to extend extraordinary respect and deference to one's elders to honor the wisdom that comes from experience. Indeed, one African proverb says: &When an elder dies, it is as if a whole library had burned down. 8

These values of family and community distinguish the African outlook. Indeed Jomo Kenyatta, the illustrious predecessor of President Moi, wrote in his book &Facing Mount Kenya 8: &While the Westerner asserts that character formation is the chief thing, he forgets that character is formed primarily through relations with other people ... this is perhaps the most fundamental difference in outlook between Africans and Europeans. 8

In fact, we need to relearn and replant and nurture the values of family and community here in America; and we need to build the institutions and economies that allow these values to flourish in Africa. A worldwide revival of these values may well be decisive in our efforts to face together the challenges of the new century.

As I said at the opening of my remarks, our global challenge is to discover a binding and powerful sense of human solidarity to unite us against global threats. It is this solidarity that must save us. It is this solidarity that Africa can help teach us.

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Thank you. God bless America. And God bless our partners in Africa.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:18-FEB-2000 14:53:26.00

SUBJECT: Re: please do send a draft for my own guidance though.

TO: Alejandro G. Cabrera (CN=Alejandro G. Cabrera/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

3

Vice President Al Gore
Phone Call to National Summit for Africa
February 18, 2000

Good morning. I ,m sorry I ,m not able to meet with you face to face today. I was unable to come personally to the hotel because the Hotel Workers Union Local 25 is picketing, and) in solidarity with the workers -- I will not cross that picket line. Unfortunately, our efforts to find an alternate site did not work out. At the same time, I did not want to miss the chance to talk to you about the importance of Africa in the world today, and I thank you for giving me this chance to talk by telephone.

First, I want to commend you all for your role in this historic summit. You have proved that there is a national constituency for Africa here in America, and you should be proud of that. A lot of people said it couldn ,t be done.

This rising commitment to the continent of Africa comes at just the right time, because we are entering a new century with new security challenges) challenges that all nations face together and no nation can solve on its own.

That ,s why, in this day and age, you ,re just not going to be able to safeguard America ,s future, unless you also work to improve Africa ,s future. Africa matters. I ,ve long believed that, and I ,ve long acted on it.

As many of you know, I co-chair with my friend Thabo Mbeki the U.S.-South Africa Binational Commission. It ,s fair to say, I think, that our Commission has opened the deepest dialogue the United States has ever had with an African country.

I ,ve learned a few things from that Commission) and the most important, I think, is that Africa) in so many areas) is poised for enormous success in the new century. Over the past ten years, Africa has more than tripled the number of its democracies, and now has some of the world ,s fastest-growing economies.

Of course, Africa has serious problems, too. Far too many children are hungry, and far too few are going to school. So many people are infected with HIV/AIDS that it ,s both a human tragedy and a security crisis.

These challenges are blocking Africa ,s extraordinary potential in the 21st century, and that ,s why I believe America has to do more in Africa) more to advance democracy, promote peace, boost the economy and fight

disease.

I believe we must work diligently for the restoration of peace and support the means for conflict resolution in Africa. And we must do our part through vital efforts such as the African Crisis Response Initiative, which is training thousands of peacekeepers from the African nations themselves.

Where there is war, we have to work for peace. Where there is peace, we have to work for democracy. I am not talking about elections alone; I am talking about rule of law, independent judiciaries, a free press, open and transparent government) the kinds of institutions that give citizens real power and leverage in society.

To encourage economic growth, America and Africa must also do more to open markets to each others products, and give Africa ,s businesses a better chance to sell their goods overseas. I strongly support the African Growth and Opportunity Act, and I am grateful that the National Summit on Africa has called for its passage.

Let us also understand this: No matter what else we do, in many poor African nations, economic growth will not be possible unless those nations are freed from an impossible burden of debt. We are right to take steps to forgive the debt burden in the developing world. And we need to do more) both to support true economic reform, and to alleviate poverty.

We also know that no nation can compete in the world without investing in education. America has a deep and vital interest in improving the quality of education in Africa and also closing a vast digital divide: so that the new era of information creates new opportunities -- not deep new divisions -- in the global economy.

And finally, America must do more) and urge the world to do more -- to confront the growing crisis of AIDS.

Last month, I was honored to chair the United Nations Security Council ,s historic meeting on AIDS) the first Security Council meeting of the millennium, and the first-ever devoted to a health issue. There I announced a \$100 million increase in our commitment to the global fight against AIDS. I also announced a new \$50 million commitment to help find, buy, and distribute life-saving vaccines in Africa and in all developing nations.

Finally, I announced as well that in the coming months I will convene a meeting of American business leaders active in Africa, and work with them to help make the workplace a more effective place for the education and prevention of AIDS. I will also work with them to seek more resources for this battle, and I ask you to join me.

Of course, my plan to work with business leaders underscores the point that government cannot do it all. I want to take this opportunity to salute the efforts of non-governmental groups, particularly the many missionary churches who have done so much in Africa to promote education, improve agriculture, provide medicine, and encourage student exchanges. You make an immense difference in the lives of your communities. I want to commend you all and urge you to intensify your efforts.

The aim of the United States to promote peace, democracy and prosperity in Africa is at the heart of our new security agenda for the 21st century)

one grounded in our own self-interest, but uplifted by our ideals of what is right and good. Even as our efforts benefit Africa, they help America. And that is why I will never stop fighting for American engagement in Africa and around the world.

Before I close my remarks, I want to talk for a minute about something I personally have found very special about engaging with Africa: the distinctively African values of family and community.

If the world had been wiser these past centuries; it would have taken from Africa not its valuables, but its values.

You can see these values in the way Africans love their children, cherish their families, and respect their elders. One African proverb says: & When an elder dies, it is as if a whole library had burned down. 8

I think) especially in the global era) we need more of the values of family and community around the world.

America and Africa built a sense of extended family in the last century as the NAACP and ANC shared ideas, and tactics, and encouragement in their efforts to end discrimination in America and Apartheid in South Africa.

I will never forget watching one of the great triumphs achieved with the help of that extended family. Just ten years ago last week [Feb 11, 1990], early on a Sunday morning, I watched on TV with my six-year old son as Nelson Mandela walked out of his prison cell on Robben Island.

And I remember thinking how hard it is to be a parent when your kids ask you questions like &Why are people poor? 8 &Why is there war? 8 &Why is there prejudice? 8 But on this day, as my son watched the scene and asked me &why? 8) I could say -- &because sometimes good people get together and change the world. 8

We need to change the world again. And we might want to take inspiration from the words of Nelson Mandela. After he had spent more than a quarter century in captivity, you would think) on the day of his release) he might be looking forward to a rest. But this man, the day he left his prison cell, walked a short distance down a dusty road, and uttered -- in his first words of freedom:

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As we fight the long fight for greater engagement, investment, and action in Africa, let us remember his words.

Thank you. God bless you. And God bless our partners in Africa.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:18-FEB-2000 14:48:16.00

SUBJECT: Thanks, Joe.

TO: davidsonjoe@hotmail.com (davidsonjoe@hotmail.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Vice President Al Gore
Phone Call to National Summit for Africa
February 18, 2000

Good morning. I ,m sorry I ,m not able to meet with you face to face today. I was unable to come personally to the hotel because the Hotel Workers Union Local 25 is picketing, and) in solidarity with the workers -- I will not cross that picket line. Unfortunately, our efforts to find an alternate site did not work out. At the same time, I did not want to miss the chance to talk to you about the importance of Africa in the world today, and I thank you for giving me this chance to talk by telephone.

First, I want to commend you all for your role in this historic summit. You have proved that there is a national constituency for Africa here in America, and you should be proud of that. A lot of people said it couldn ,t be done.

This rising commitment to the continent of Africa comes at just the right time, because we are entering a new century with new security challenges) challenges that all nations face together and no nation can solve on its own.

That ,s why, in this day and age, you ,re just not going to be able to safeguard America ,s future, unless you also work to improve Africa ,s future. Africa matters. I ,ve long believed that, and I ,ve long acted on it.

As many of you know, I co-chair with my friend Thabo Mbeki the U.S.-South Africa Binational Commission. It ,s fair to say, I think, that our Commission has opened the deepest dialogue the United States has ever had with an African country.

I ,ve learned a few things from that Commission) and the most important, I think, is that Africa) in so many areas) is poised for enormous success in the new century. Over the past ten years, Africa has more than tripled the number of its democracies, and now has some of the world ,s fastest-growing economies.

Of course, Africa has serious problems, too. Far too many children are hungry, and far too few are going to school. So many people are infected with HIV/AIDS that it ,s both a human tragedy and a security crisis.

These challenges are blocking Africa ,s extraordinary potential in the 21st century, and that ,s why I believe America has to do more in Africa) more to advance democracy, promote peace, boost the economy and fight disease.

I believe we must work diligently for the restoration of peace and support the means for conflict resolution in Africa. And we must do our part through vital efforts such as the African Crisis Response Initiative, which is training thousands of peacekeepers from the African nations themselves.

Where there is war, we have to work for peace. Where there is peace, we have to work for democracy. I am not talking about elections alone; I am talking about rule of law, independent judiciaries, a free press, open and transparent government) the kinds of institutions that give citizens real power and leverage in society.

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RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:18-FEB-2000 16:53:32.00

SUBJECT: VP phone call to national summit

TO: mazrau@aol.com (mazrau@aol.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

2

Vice President Al Gore
Phone Call to National Summit for Africa
February 18, 2000

Good morning. I ,m sorry I ,m not able to meet with you face to face today. I was unable to come personally to the hotel because the Hotel Workers Union Local 25 is picketing, and) in solidarity with the workers -- I will not cross that picket line. Unfortunately, our efforts to find an alternate site did not work out. At the same time, I did not want to miss the chance to talk to you about the importance of Africa in the world today, and I thank you for giving me this chance to talk by telephone.

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As we fight the long fight for greater engagement, investment, and action in Africa, let us remember his words.

Thank you. God bless you. And God bless our partners in Africa.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:18-FEB-2000 12:08:11.00

SUBJECT: reviewed by leon and VP

TO: Kenneth S. Baer (CN=Kenneth S. Baer/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

14

Vice President Al Gore
Phone Call to National Summit for Africa
February 18, 2000

Good morning. I ,m sorry I ,m not able to meet with you face to face today. I was unable to come personally to the hotel because the Hotel Workers Union Local 25 is picketing, and) in solidarity with the workers -- I will not cross that picket line. Unfortunately, our efforts to find an alternate site did not work out. At the same time, I did not want to miss the chance to talk to you about the importance of Africa in the world today, and I thank you for giving me this chance to talk by telephone.

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Of course, Africa has serious problems, too. Far too many children are hungry, and far too few are going to school. So many people are infected with HIV/AIDS that it's both a human tragedy and a security crisis.

These challenges are blocking Africa's extraordinary potential in the 21st century, and that's why I believe America has to do more in Africa -- more to advance democracy, promote peace, boost the economy and fight disease.

I believe we must work diligently for the restoration of peace and support the means for conflict resolution in Africa. And we must do our part through vital efforts such as the African Crisis Response Initiative, which is training thousands of peacekeepers from the African nations themselves.

Where there is war, we have to work for peace. Where there is peace, we have to work for democracy. I am not talking about elections alone; I am talking about rule of law, independent judiciaries, a free press, open and transparent government -- the kinds of institutions that give citizens real power and leverage in society.

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RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:18-FEB-2000 16:42:38.00

SUBJECT: VP remarks to National Summit

TO: mufsons@washpost.com (mufsons@washpost.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Vice President Al Gore

Phone Call to National Summit for Africa

February 18, 2000

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And I remember thinking how hard it is to be a parent when your kids ask you questions like &Why are people poor? 8 &Why is there war? 8 &Why is there prejudice? 8 But on this day, as my son watched the scene and asked me &why? 8) I could say -- &because sometimes good people get together and change the world. 8

We need to change the world again. And we might want to take inspiration from the words of Nelson Mandela. After he had spent more than a quarter century in captivity, you would think) on the day of his release) he might be looking forward to a rest. But this man, the day he left his prison cell, walked a short distance down a dusty road, and uttered -- in his first words of freedom:

&Now is the time to intensify the struggle. To relax our efforts now would be a mistake which generations to come will not be able to forgive. 8

As we fight the long fight for greater engagement, investment, and action in Africa, let us remember his words.

Thank you. God bless you. And God bless our partners in Africa.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Julia G. Bataille (CN=Julia G. Bataille/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:18-FEB-2000 14:08:14.00

SUBJECT: phone call text

TO: Alejandro G. Cabrera (CN=Alejandro G. Cabrera/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

fyi, i emailed to April

----- Forwarded by Julia G. Bataille/OVP on 02/18/2000
02:08 PM -----

Thomas M. Rosshirt
02/18/2000 02:01:39 PM
Record Type: Record

To: Julia G. Bataille/OVP@OVP
cc:
Subject:phone call text

Vice President Al Gore
Phone Call to National Summit for Africa
February 18, 2000

Good morning. I ,m sorry I ,m not able to meet with you face to face today. I was unable to come personally to the hotel because the Hotel Workers Union Local 25 is picketing, and) in solidarity with the workers -- I will not cross that picket line. Unfortunately, our efforts to find an alternate site did not work out. At the same time, I did not want to miss the chance to talk to you about the importance of Africa in the world today, and I thank you for giving me this chance to talk by telephone.

First, I want to commend you all for your role in this historic summit. You have proved that there is a national constituency for Africa here in America, and you should be proud of that. A lot of people said it couldn ,t be done.

This rising commitment to the continent of Africa comes at just the right time, because we are entering a new century with new security challenges) challenges that all nations face together and no nation can solve on its own.

That ,s why, in this day and age, you ,re just not going to be able to safeguard America ,s future, unless you also work to improve Africa ,s future. Africa matters. I ,ve long believed that, and I ,ve long acted on it.

As many of you know, I co-chair with my friend Thabo Mbeki the U.S.-South Africa Binational Commission. It ,s fair to say, I think, that our Commission has opened the deepest dialogue the United States has ever had with an African country.

I ,ve learned a few things from that Commission) and the most important, I think, is that Africa) in so many areas) is poised for enormous success in the new century. Over the past ten years, Africa has more than tripled the number of its democracies, and now has some of the world ,s fastest-growing economies.

Of course, Africa has serious problems, too. Far too many children are hungry, and far too few are going to school. So many people are infected with HIV/AIDS that it ,s both a human tragedy and a security crisis.

These challenges are blocking Africa ,s extraordinary potential in the 21st century, and that ,s why I believe America has to do more in Africa) more to advance democracy, promote peace, boost the economy and fight disease.

I believe we must work diligently for the restoration of peace and support the means for conflict resolution in Africa. And we must do our part through vital efforts such as the African Crisis Response Initiative, which is training thousands of peacekeepers from the African nations themselves.

Where there is war, we have to work for peace. Where there is peace, we have to work for democracy. I am not talking about elections alone; I am talking about rule of law, independent judiciaries, a free press, open and transparent government) the kinds of institutions that give citizens real power and leverage in society.

To encourage economic growth, America and Africa must also do more to open markets to each others products, and give Africa ,s businesses a better chance to sell their goods overseas. I strongly support the African Growth and Opportunity Act, and I am grateful that the National Summit on Africa has called for its passage.

Let us also understand this: No matter what else we do, in many poor African nations, economic growth will not be possible unless those nations are freed from an impossible burden of debt. We are right to take steps to forgive the debt burden in the developing world. And we need to do more) both to support true economic reform, and to alleviate poverty.

We also know that no nation can compete in the world without investing in education. America has a deep and vital interest in improving the quality of education in Africa and also closing a vast digital divide: so that the new era of information creates new opportunities -- not deep new divisions -- in the global economy.

And finally, America must do more) and urge the world to do more -- to confront the growing crisis of AIDS.

Last month, I was honored to chair the United Nations Security Council ,s historic meeting on AIDS) the first Security Council meeting of the millennium, and the first-ever devoted to a health issue. There I announced a \$100 million increase in our commitment to the global fight against AIDS. I also announced a new \$50 million commitment to help find, buy, and distribute life-saving vaccines in Africa and in all developing nations.

Finally, I announced as well that in the coming months I will convene a meeting of American business leaders active in Africa, and work with them to help make the workplace a more effective place for the education and

prevention of AIDS. I will also work with them to seek more resources for this battle, and I ask you to join me.

Of course, my plan to work with business leaders underscores the point that government cannot do it all. I want to take this opportunity to salute the efforts of non-governmental groups, particularly the many missionary churches who have done so much in Africa to promote education, improve agriculture, provide medicine, and encourage student exchanges. You make an immense difference in the lives of your communities. I want to commend you all and urge you to intensify your efforts.

The aim of the United States to promote peace, democracy and prosperity in Africa is at the heart of our new security agenda for the 21st century) one grounded in our own self-interest, but uplifted by our ideals of what is right and good. Even as our efforts benefit Africa, they help America . And that is why I will never stop fighting for American engagement in Africa and around the world.

Before I close my remarks, I want to talk for a minute about something I personally have found very special about engaging with Africa: the distinctively African values of family and community.

If the world had been wiser these past centuries; it would have taken from Africa not its valuables, but its values.

You can see these values in the way Africans love their children, cherish their families, and respect their elders. One African proverb says: & When an elder dies, it is as if a whole library had burned down. 8

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RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Julia G. Bataille (CN=Julia G. Bataille/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:18-FEB-2000 14:07:59.00

SUBJECT: VP Africa Summit remarks

TO: Aprilryanwhaurn@aol.com (Aprilryanwhaurn@aol.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

April -- here is the DRAFT remarks for your use off the record to prepare for interview w/ VP this afternoon -- I hope this is helpful for you to use for this afternoon. You should expect the call at 4:30pm. Thanks.
Julie

Vice President Al Gore
Phone Call to National Summit for Africa
February 18, 2000

Good morning. I ,m sorry I ,m not able to meet with you face to face today. I was unable to come personally to the hotel because the Hotel Workers Union Local 25 is picketing, and) in solidarity with the workers -- I will not cross that picket line. Unfortunately, our efforts to find an alternate site did not work out. At the same time, I did not want to miss the chance to talk to you about the importance of Africa in the world today, and I thank you for giving me this chance to talk by telephone.

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These challenges are blocking Africa ,s extraordinary potential in the 21st century, and that ,s why I believe America has to do more in Africa) more to advance democracy, promote peace, boost the economy and fight disease.

I believe we must work diligently for the restoration of peace and support the means for conflict resolution in Africa. And we must do our part through vital efforts such as the African Crisis Response Initiative, which is training thousands of peacekeepers from the African nations themselves.

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RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:18-FEB-2000 16:08:53.00

SUBJECT: vp remarks

TO: aprilryanwhaurn@aol.com (aprilryanwhaurn@aol.com @ inet [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Vice President Al Gore
Phone Call to National Summit for Africa
February 18, 2000

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The aim of the United States to promote peace, democracy and prosperity in Africa is at the heart of our new security agenda for the 21st century) one grounded in our own self-interest, but uplifted by our ideals of what is right and good. Even as our efforts benefit Africa, they help America

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RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:18-FEB-2000 09:26:34.00

SUBJECT: draft

TO: Todd H. Dennett (CN=Todd H. Dennett/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

REMARKS BY VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE

NATIONAL SUMMIT ON AFRICA

Friday, February 18, 2000

I am honored to be here today, at the dawn of a new era of understanding and cooperation between the United States and Africa. This summit proves that) far beyond the 30 million Americans who trace their heritage to Africa) all of America increasingly recognizes that this is a time for engagement, investment and action in Africa.

It is fitting this rising commitment to the continent of Africa comes as we enter a new century with new security challenges) challenges that all nations face together and no nation can solve on its own.

We face new global pandemics such as HIV/AIDS, which threatens to lay waste to whole societies.

We face the challenge of sustainable economic growth -- and how to extend it to those nations and peoples that are the least well-off.

We face a global challenge of terror, magnified by the availability of weapons of mass destruction so small, they can be concealed in a coat pocket.

We face global environmental challenges) and new threats of drugs and crime and corruption that spill across borders.

In the midst of these new security threats, we need a new security agenda for the 21st Century) one that seeks security not only from the threat of war, but from risks to the quality of life and liberty of spirit that should be the birthright of all.

Nowhere is the challenge stronger) or the opportunity greater) than on the continent of Africa.

In recent years, Africa has seen a new birth of freedom. A rising number of African nations have moved from dictatorship to democracy. More than half of all African nations now elect their own leaders.

I believe we must seize this moment to strengthen democracy, foster opportunity, and advance peace and stability across the region.

Today, more and more African nations are opening their markets, privatizing their economies, and achieving stronger economic growth. Indeed, growth in sub-Saharan Africa has tripled over the last decade, creating prospects for a higher quality of life across the continent.

America has a strong economic interest and a strong security interest in

broadening our economic ties to Africa and encouraging the free markets that are now taking hold. At the same time, we face grave risks that could undermine Africa's progress.

HIV/ AIDS now infects 10 people in sub-Saharan Africa every minute. Africa suffers from the lowest school enrollment rate in the developing world. And for too many, poverty and hunger are deep and inescapable.

We, as the world's leading democracy, must do more to assist the efforts of Africans to overcome a long history of hardship, and face the new threats of the future. We must do more) both because it is morally right, and because it is the only way to lead the world to peace and prosperity.

Today, I want to focus on three central issues) how we sustain and strengthen peace and democracy; how we foster economic growth and trade; and how we can help Africa fight poverty, illiteracy, and disease.

First, let us recognize that no society can reach for its dreams if it is mired in war and chaos. Tens of thousands of lives have been lost in Africa's current wars) taking the greatest toll among the innocents.

Let us be clear: any area that is ungoverned by a stable and elected government, that is controlled and patrolled only by armies and armed gangs, is a haven for crime, invites more violence, and ensures more poverty.

I believe America must make an unbreakable commitment to peacekeeping and conflict resolution in Africa. We must do our part in vital efforts such as the African Crisis Response Initiative, which is training thousands of peacekeepers from the African nations themselves. Well-trained, well-equipped African peacekeepers can and will make a crucial difference to the security and stability of the region) and the peace of the world.

Where there is war, we must work for peace; where there is peace, we must advance the birth and growth of democracy. I am not talking about elections alone, although that is an essential first step. I am talking about rule of law, independent judiciaries, a free press, open and transparent government) the institutions that give people a stake in their society, in its success, and in its future.

Democracy is the best guarantor of justice and human rights. It surpasses every other system of government in producing economic growth, political stability, and effective cooperation against security threats like terrorists and drug traffickers.

In the 1990s, Africa's richest nation and its most populous nation both embraced democracy. We need to do more to encourage freedom and to advance peace and prosperity all across Africa.

Second, it is in our clear self-interest) and it is in Africa's clear self interest) for both of us to open our markets to each others products, and give Africa's businesses a better chance to sell their goods overseas.

I strongly support the African Growth and Opportunity Act, and I am grateful that the National Summit on Africa has endorsed this bill)

and that the African Diplomatic Corps has unanimously called for its passage.

Let us also understand: No matter what else we do, in many poor African nations, economic growth will not be possible until those nations are freed from an impossible burden of debt. New democracies should not have to choose between feeding their children and paying interest on old debt. We are right to take steps to forgive the debt burden in the developing world. And we need to do more.

As we enter the new economy of the 21st century, we must resolve to close a vast digital divide between the developed and developing worlds. We must help provide the infrastructure and training Africans need to take advantage of new technology and the Internet) to win their share in the new economy, so that the new era of information creates new opportunities -- not deep new divisions -- in the global economy.

We know that no nation can compete in the world without investing in education. And what we know here at home is also true in Africa -- education is the best anti-poverty program, the best anti-discrimination program, the best way to promote tolerance for others and inspire respect for democracy. America has a deep and vital interest in improving the quality of education for the families and communities of Africa) and we will work to give more and more Africans a 21st century education.

Let me pause here and make the obvious point that government cannot do it all. I want to salute the efforts of private groups, particularly the many missionary churches who have done so much to promote education, improve agriculture, provide medicine, and encourage student exchanges that make an immense difference in the life of students and their communities. I commend you all and urge you all to intensify your efforts.

Finally, let us recognize that HIV/AIDS is not only a terrible human tragedy, but a crushing security crisis in Africa and across this world. The number of people who will die of AIDS in the first decade of the 21st Century will rival the number that died in all the wars in all the decades of the 20th Century.

Last month, I was honored to chair the United Nations Security Council ,s historic meeting on AIDS) the first-ever Security Council meeting devoted to a health issue. There I announced a new \$100 million commitment to the global fight against AIDS. I announced a new \$50 million commitment to help find, buy, and distribute life-saving vaccines in Africa and in all developing nations.

I announced that in the coming months I will convene a meeting of American business leaders active in Africa, to help make the workplace a more effective place for the education and prevention of AIDS. I ask you to join me in that effort. If we do not confront the growing crisis of AIDS in Africa, we can never build the strong and prosperous Africa we seek.

These investments by the United States) in peace and democracy; economic growth and trade; fighting poverty, illiteracy, and disease) are a vital part of our new security agenda for the 21st century) one grounded in our own self-interest, but uplifted by our ideals of what is right and good. Even as our efforts benefit Africa, they help America. And that is why I am and always will be a tireless proponent of American engagement and investment in Africa and around the world.

Before I close my remarks, I want to talk for a minute about what I

personally have found special about engaging with Africa in particular.

Africa has accomplishments unknown to too many Americans, like the ancient civilizations of Mali and the great stone structures of Zimbabwe. But just as important as Africa's accomplishments is its cultivation -- across the 3,000 ethnic groups of Africa -- of a distinctively African respect for family and community.

If the world had been wiser these past centuries; it would have taken from Africa not its valuables, but its values. We can see Africa's emphasis on family and community in most every element of everyday life.

It is common practice in Africa for a young person's school tuition to be paid not by his mother and father only, but by a dozen adults in his extended family. It is common practice in Africa to reach out and care for children across lines of family and parentage. It is common practice in Africa to extend great respect to one's elders to honor the wisdom that comes from experience. Indeed, one African proverb says: "When an elder dies, it is as if a whole library had burned down." 8

These values of family and community distinguish the African outlook. Indeed Jomo Kenyatta, the illustrious predecessor of President Moi, wrote in his book "Facing Mount Kenya": "While the Westerner asserts that character formation is the chief thing, he forgets that character is formed primarily through relations with other people." 8

In fact, we need to relearn and replant and nurture the values of family and community here in America; and we need to sustain and strengthen the institutions and economies that allow these values to flourish in Africa. A worldwide revival of these values may well be decisive in our efforts to face together the challenges of the new century.

Indeed, I remember six years ago talking about the power of world community with Reverend Jesse Jackson in the Market Theatre in Johannesburg. It was the eve of the Inauguration of President Mandela in 1994, and Rev. Jackson talked with me about how Americans and Africans worked together "in solidarity" to end discrimination in America and Apartheid in South Africa.

Nearly a century ago, the NAACP, which was founded in 1909, served as a model for the African National Congress, which was founded only three years later. As the NAACP and the ANC pursued the cause of justice in Africa and the United States, they shared tactics and hopes, encouragement and inspiration. The end of Apartheid was a triumph of the ANC and millions of courageous, self-sacrificing South Africans; it was also "a triumph of those who fight for justice in our own country."

Ten years ago last week, early on a Sunday morning, I sat in wonder and watched on television with the rest of the world as Nelson Mandela walked out of his prison cell on Robben Island. My son was there with me. He was six years old. And I remember thinking how often a parent has the burden of answering the infinite "Whys?" from their children. Why do people hurt other people? Why is there war? Why is there poverty and deprivation? On that day, as he asked me "why, dad?" I responded with overflowing joy: "because sometimes we can make our dreams come true." 8

In this new century, how do we preserve and deepen that sense of solidarity that made those dreams come true?

In this new century, we can change our world again) but only if we can rekindle the community of the past, and honor our commitment to the future.

As Nelson Mandela said ten years ago after he had walked a short way down a dusty road to utter his first words of freedom:

&Now is the time to intensify the struggle. To relax our efforts now would be a mistake which generations to come will not be able to forgive. 8

Thank you. God bless you. And God bless our partners in Africa.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:18-FEB-2000 14:01:46.00

SUBJECT: phone call text

TO: Julia G. Bataille (CN=Julia G. Bataille/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Vice President Al Gore

Phone Call to National Summit for Africa

February 18, 2000

Good morning. I ,m sorry I ,m not able to meet with you face to face today. I was unable to come personally to the hotel because the Hotel Workers Union Local 25 is picketing, and) in solidarity with the workers -- I will not cross that picket line. Unfortunately, our efforts to find an alternate site did not work out. At the same time, I did not want to miss the chance to talk to you about the importance of Africa in the world today, and I thank you for giving me this chance to talk by telephone.

First, I want to commend you all for your role in this historic summit. You have proved that there is a national constituency for Africa here in America, and you should be proud of that. A lot of people said it couldn ,t be done.

This rising commitment to the continent of Africa comes at just the right time, because we are entering a new century with new security challenges) challenges that all nations face together and no nation can solve on its own.

That ,s why, in this day and age, you ,re just not going to be able to safeguard America ,s future, unless you also work to improve Africa ,s future. Africa matters. I ,ve long believed that, and I ,ve long acted on it.

As many of you know, I co-chair with my friend Thabo Mbeki the U.S.-South Africa Binational Commission. It ,s fair to say, I think, that our Commission has opened the deepest dialogue the United States has ever had with an African country.

I ,ve learned a few things from that Commission) and the most important, I think, is that Africa) in so many areas) is poised for enormous success in the new century. Over the past ten years, Africa has more than tripled the number of its democracies, and now has some of the world ,s fastest-growing economies.

Of course, Africa has serious problems, too. Far too many children are hungry, and far too few are going to school. So many people are infected with HIV/AIDS that it ,s both a human tragedy and a security crisis.

These challenges are blocking Africa ,s extraordinary potential in the 21st century, and that ,s why I believe America has to do more in Africa) more to advance democracy, promote peace, boost the economy and fight disease.

I believe we must work diligently for the restoration of peace and support the means for conflict resolution in Africa. And we must do our part through vital efforts such as the African Crisis Response Initiative, which is training thousands of peacekeepers from the African nations themselves.

Where there is war, we have to work for peace. Where there is peace, we have to work for democracy. I am not talking about elections alone; I am talking about rule of law, independent judiciaries, a free press, open and transparent government) the kinds of institutions that give citizens real power and leverage in society.

To encourage economic growth, America and Africa must also do more to open markets to each others products, and give Africa ,s businesses a better chance to sell their goods overseas. I strongly support the African Growth and Opportunity Act, and I am grateful that the National Summit on Africa has called for its passage.

Let us also understand this: No matter what else we do, in many poor African nations, economic growth will not be possible unless those nations are freed from an impossible burden of debt. We are right to take steps to forgive the debt burden in the developing world. And we need to do more) both to support true economic reform, and to alleviate poverty.

We also know that no nation can compete in the world without investing in education. America has a deep and vital interest in improving the quality of education in Africa and also closing a vast digital divide: so that the new era of information creates new opportunities -- not deep new divisions -- in the global economy.

And finally, America must do more) and urge the world to do more -- to confront the growing crisis of AIDS.

Last month, I was honored to chair the United Nations Security Council ,s historic meeting on AIDS) the first Security Council meeting of the millennium, and the first-ever devoted to a health issue. There I announced a \$100 million increase in our commitment to the global fight against AIDS. I also announced a new \$50 million commitment to help find, buy, and distribute life-saving vaccines in Africa and in all developing nations.

Finally, I announced as well that in the coming months I will convene a meeting of American business leaders active in Africa, and work with them to help make the workplace a more effective place for the education and prevention of AIDS. I will also work with them to seek more resources for this battle, and I ask you to join me.

Of course, my plan to work with business leaders underscores the point that government cannot do it all. I want to take this opportunity to salute the efforts of non-governmental groups, particularly the many missionary churches who have done so much in Africa to promote education, improve agriculture, provide medicine, and encourage student exchanges. You make an immense difference in the lives of your communities. I want to commend you all and urge you to intensify your efforts.

The aim of the United States to promote peace, democracy and prosperity in Africa is at the heart of our new security agenda for the 21st century) one grounded in our own self-interest, but uplifted by our ideals of what is right and good. Even as our efforts benefit Africa, they help America

. And that is why I will never stop fighting for American engagement in Africa and around the world.

Before I close my remarks, I want to talk for a minute about something I personally have found very special about engaging with Africa: the distinctively African values of family and community.

If the world had been wiser these past centuries; it would have taken from Africa not its valuables, but its values.

You can see these values in the way Africans love their children, cherish their families, and respect their elders. One African proverb says: & When an elder dies, it is as if a whole library had burned down. 8

I think) especially in the global era) we need more of the values of family and community around the world.

America and Africa built a sense of extended family in the last century as the NAACP and ANC shared ideas, and tactics, and encouragement in their efforts to end discrimination in America and Apartheid in South Africa.

I will never forget watching one of the great triumphs achieved with the help of that extended family. Just ten years ago last week [Feb 11, 1990], early on a Sunday morning, I watched on TV with my six-year old son as Nelson Mandela walked out of his prison cell on Robben Island.

And I remember thinking how hard it is to be a parent when your kids ask you questions like &Why are people poor? 8 &Why is there war? 8 &Why is there prejudice? 8 But on this day, as my son watched the scene and asked me &why? 8) I could say -- &because sometimes good people get together and change the world. 8

We need to change the world again. And we might want to take inspiration from the words of Nelson Mandela. After he had spent more than a quarter century in captivity, you would think) on the day of his release) he might be looking forward to a rest. But this man, the day he left his prison cell, walked a short distance down a dusty road, and uttered -- in his first words of freedom:

&Now is the time to intensify the struggle. To relax our efforts now would be a mistake which generations to come will not be able to forgive. 8

As we fight the long fight for greater engagement, investment, and action in Africa, let us remember his words.

Thank you. God bless you. And God bless our partners in Africa.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:28-FEB-2000 15:50:11.00

SUBJECT: trying to get these cleared by VP for inclusion in the Summit record - can you help?

TO: Brian A. Reich (CN=Brian A. Reich/O=OVP@OVP [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

REMARKS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE

NATIONAL SUMMIT ON AFRICA

Friday, February 18, 2000

I am honored to be here today, at the dawn of a new era of understanding and cooperation between the United States and Africa. This summit proves that) far beyond the 30 million Americans who trace their heritage to Africa) all of America increasingly recognizes that this is a time for engagement, investment and action in Africa.

It is fitting this rising commitment to the continent of Africa comes as we enter a new century with new security challenges) challenges that all nations face together and no nation can solve on its own.

We face new global pandemics such as HIV/AIDS, which threatens to lay waste to whole societies.

We face the challenge of sustainable economic growth -- and how to extend it to those nations and peoples that are the least well-off.

We face a global challenge of terror, magnified by the availability of weapons of mass destruction so small, they can be concealed in a coat pocket.

We face global environmental challenges) and new threats of drugs and crime and corruption that spill across borders.

In the midst of these new security threats, we need a new security agenda for the 21st Century) one that seeks security not only from the threat of war, but from risks to the quality of life and liberty of spirit that should be the birthright of all.

Nowhere is the challenge stronger) or the opportunity greater) than on the continent of Africa.

In recent years, Africa has seen a new birth of freedom. A rising number of African nations have moved from dictatorship to democracy. More than half of all African nations now elect their own leaders.

More and more African nations are opening their markets, privatizing their economies, and achieving stronger economic growth. Indeed, growth in sub-Saharan Africa has tripled over the last decade, creating prospects for a higher quality of life across the continent.

America has a strong economic interest and a strong security interest in broadening our ties to Africa and encouraging the democracies and free markets that are now taking hold.

At the same time, we still face grave risks that could undermine Africa ,s progress.

HIV/ AIDS now infects 10 people in sub-Saharan Africa every minute. Africa suffers from the lowest school enrollment rate in the developing world. And too many suffer poverty and hunger that seem inescapable.

We, as the world's leading democracy, must do more to assist the efforts of Africans to overcome a long history of hardship, and face the new threats of the future. We must do more) both because it is morally right, and because it is the only way to lead the world to peace and prosperity.

Today, I want to focus on three central issues) how we sustain and strengthen peace and democracy; how we foster economic growth and trade; and how we can help Africa fight poverty, illiteracy, and disease.

First, let us recognize that no society can reach for its dreams if it is mired in war and chaos. Tens of thousands of lives have been lost in Africa's current wars) with the greatest loss of life suffered by innocents.

Let us be clear: any area that is ungoverned by a stable and elected government, that is controlled and patrolled only by armies and armed gangs, is a haven for crime, invites more violence, and ensures more poverty.

I believe America must actively support the means for conflict resolution, and work diligently for the restoration of peace in Africa. We must continue to do our part through vital efforts such as the African Crisis Response Initiative, which is training thousands of peacekeepers from the African nations themselves. Well-trained, well-equipped African peacekeepers can and will make a crucial difference to the security and stability of the region) and the peace of the world.

Where there is war, we must work for peace; where there is peace, we must advance the birth and growth of democracy. I am not talking about elections alone, although that is an essential first step. I am talking about rule of law, independent judiciaries, a free press, open and transparent government) the kinds of institutions that give citizens real power and leverage in society.

Democracy is the best guarantor of justice and human rights. It surpasses every other system of government in producing economic growth, political stability, and effective cooperation against security threats like terrorists and drug traffickers.

In the 1990s, Africa's richest nation and its most populous nation both embraced democracy. We need to seize the day) and do more to spread freedom and democracy and advance peace and prosperity all across Africa.

Second, it is in our clear self-interest) and it is in Africa's clear self interest) for both of us to open our markets to each others products, and give Africa's businesses a better chance to sell their goods overseas.

I strongly support the African Growth and Opportunity Act, and I am grateful that the National Summit on Africa has endorsed this bill) and that the African Diplomatic Corps has unanimously called for its passage.

Let us also understand this: No matter what else we do, in many poor African nations, economic growth will not be possible unless those nations are freed from an impossible burden of debt. New democracies should not have to choose between feeding their children and paying interest on old debt. We are right to take steps to forgive the debt burden in the developing world. And we need to do more) both to support true economic reform, and to alleviate poverty.

As we enter the new economy of the 21st century, we must resolve to close a vast digital divide between the developed and developing worlds. We must help provide the infrastructure and training Africans need to take advantage of new technology and the Internet) to win their

share in the new economy, so that the new era of information creates new opportunities -- not new divisions -- in the global economy.

We know that no nation can compete in the world without investing in education. And what we know here at home is also true in Africa -- education is the best anti-poverty program, the best anti-discrimination program, the best way to promote tolerance for others and inspire respect for democracy. America has a deep and vital interest in improving the quality of education for the families and communities of Africa) and we will work to give more and more Africans a 21st century education.

Finally, let us recognize that HIV/AIDS is not only a terrible human tragedy, but a crushing security crisis in Africa and across this world. The number of people who will die of AIDS in the first decade of the 21st Century will rival the number that died in all the wars in all the decades of the 20th Century.

Last month, I was honored to chair the United Nations Security Council ,s historic meeting on AIDS) the first Security Council meeting of the millennium and the first-ever devoted to a health issue. There I announced a \$100 million increase in our commitment to the global fight against AIDS. I also announced a new \$50 million commitment to help find, buy, and distribute life-saving vaccines in Africa and in all developing nations.

Finally, I announced that in the coming months I will convene a meeting of American business leaders active in Africa, to help make the workplace a more effective place for the education and prevention of AIDS. I will also work with them to seek more resources for this battle. I ask you to join me in that effort. If we do not confront the growing crisis of AIDS in Africa, we can never build the strong and prosperous Africa we seek.

Of course, my plan to work with business leaders underscores the point that government cannot do it all. I want to take this opportunity to salute the work of non-governmental groups, particularly the many missionary churches who have done so much in Africa to promote education, improve agriculture, provide medicine, and encourage student exchanges. You make an immense difference in the lives of your communities. I want to commend you all and urge you to intensify your efforts.

American efforts to promote peace, democracy and prosperity in Africa are at the heart of our new security agenda for the 21st century) one grounded in our own self-interest, but uplifted by our ideals of what is right and good. Even as our efforts benefit Africa, they help America. And that is why I will never stop fighting for American engagement and investment in Africa and around the world.

Before I close my remarks, I want to mention something I personally have found very special about engaging with Africa.

Africa has accomplishments unknown to many Americans, like the ancient civilizations of Mali and the great stone structures of Zimbabwe. But just as important as Africa ,s accomplishments is its cultivation -- across the 3,000 ethnic groups on the continent -- of a distinctively African respect for family and community.

If the world had been wiser these past centuries, it would have taken from Africa not its valuables, but its values. We can see Africa ,s emphasis on family and community in most every element of everyday life) in the way they love their children, cherish their families, and respect their elders.

In Africa, it is common for a young person ,s school tuition to be paid not by his mother and father only, but by a dozen adults in his extended family. In Africa, it is common for adults to reach out and care for children across lines of family and parentage. In Africa, it is common to extend great respect to one ,s elders) to honor the wisdom that comes

from experience. Indeed, one African proverb says: &When an elder dies, it is as if a whole library had burned down. 8

These values of family and community distinguish the African outlook. Indeed Jomo Kenyatta, the illustrious predecessor of President Moi, wrote in his book &Facing Mount Kenya 8: &While the Westerner asserts that character formation is the chief thing, he forgets that character is formed primarily through relations with other people. 8

In fact, we need to relearn and replant and nurture the values of family and community here in America; and we need to sustain and strengthen the institutions and economies that allow these values to flourish in Africa. A worldwide revival of these values may well be decisive in our efforts to face together the challenges of the new century.

Indeed, I remember six years ago talking about the power of world community with Reverend Jesse Jackson in the Market Theatre in Johannesburg. It was the eve of the Inauguration of President Mandela in 1994, and Rev. Jackson talked with me about how Americans and Africans had worked together) in solidarity) to end discrimination in America and Apartheid in South Africa.

Nearly a century ago, the leaders of the NAACP, which was founded in 1909, and the leaders of the African National Congress, which was founded in 1912, began to confer with one another about common aims. As the NAACP and the ANC pursued the cause of justice in Africa and the United States, they shared tactics and hopes, encouragement and inspiration.

I will never forget watching one of the great triumphs achieved with the help of that extended family. Ten years ago last week [Feb 11, 1990], early on a Sunday morning, I watched on TV with my six-year old son as Nelson Mandela walked out of his prison cell on Robben Island.

And I remember thinking how hard it is to be a parent when your kids ask you questions like &Why are people poor? 8 &Why is there war? 8 &Why is there prejudice? 8 But on this day, as my son watched the scene and asked me &why? 8) I could say, with pride in our humanity: &because sometimes good people get together and change the world. 8

We need to change the world again. And we might want to take inspiration from the words of Nelson Mandela. After he had spent more than a quarter century in captivity, you would think) on the day of his release) he might be looking forward to a rest. But this man, the day he left his prison cell, walked a short distance down a dusty road, and uttered -- in his first words of freedom:

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RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:29-FEB-2000 12:04:11.00

SUBJECT: Sunni: here are the remarks both pasted in and attached. Please let me know when you have them. Thanks!

TO: Sunni Khalid <skhalid@AfricaSummit.org> (Sunni Khalid <skhalid@AfricaSummit.org> [UNKNOWN])
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

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NATIONAL SUMMIT ON AFRICA
Friday, February 18, 2000

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America has a strong economic interest and a strong security interest in broadening our ties to Africa and encouraging the democracies and free markets that are now taking hold.

At the same time, we still face grave risks that could undermine Africa's progress.

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We need to change the world again. And we might want to take inspiration from the words of Nelson Mandela. After he had spent more than a quarter century in captivity, you would think -- on the day of his release -- he might be looking forward to a rest. But this man, the day he left his prison cell, walked a short distance down a dusty road, and uttered -- in his first words of freedom:

"Now is the time to intensify the struggle. To relax our efforts now would be a mistake which generations to come will not be able to forgive."

As we fight the long fight for greater engagement, investment, and action in Africa, let us remember his words.

Thank you. God bless you. And God bless our partners in Africa.===== ATTACHMENT 1 =====
ATT CREATION TIME/DATE: 0 00:00:00.00

TEXT:
Unable to convert ARMS_EXT:[ATTACH.D38]ARMS20919266A.046 to ASCII,
The following is a HEX DUMP:

[illegible]

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===== END ATTACHMENT 1 =====

REMARKS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE
NATIONAL SUMMIT ON AFRICA
Friday, February 18, 2000

I am honored to be here today, at the dawn of a new era of understanding and cooperation between the United States and Africa. This summit proves that – far beyond the 30 million Americans who trace their heritage to Africa – all of America increasingly recognizes that this is a time for engagement, investment and action in Africa.

It is fitting this rising commitment to the continent of Africa comes as we enter a new century with new security challenges – challenges that all nations face together and no nation can solve on its own.

We face new global pandemics such as HIV/AIDS, which threatens to lay waste to whole societies.

We face the challenge of sustainable economic growth -- and how to extend it to those nations and peoples that are the least well-off.

We face a global challenge of terror, magnified by the availability of weapons of mass destruction so small, they can be concealed in a coat pocket.

We face global environmental challenges – and new threats of drugs and crime and corruption that spill across borders.

In the midst of these new security threats, we need a new security agenda for the 21st Century – one that seeks security not only from the threat of war, but from risks to the quality of life and liberty of spirit that should be the birthright of all.

Nowhere is the challenge stronger – or the opportunity greater – than on the continent of Africa.

In recent years, Africa has seen a new birth of freedom. A rising number of African nations have moved from dictatorship to democracy. More than half of all African nations now elect their own leaders.

More and more African nations are opening their markets, privatizing their economies, and achieving stronger economic growth. Indeed, growth in sub-Saharan Africa has tripled over the last decade, creating prospects for a higher quality of life across the continent.

America has a strong economic interest and a strong security interest in broadening our ties to Africa and encouraging the democracies and free markets that are now taking hold.

At the same time, we still face grave risks that could undermine Africa's progress.

HIV/ AIDS now infects 10 people in sub-Saharan Africa every minute. Africa suffers from the lowest school enrollment rate in the developing world. And too many suffer poverty and hunger that seem inescapable.

We, as the world's leading democracy, must do more to assist the efforts of Africans to overcome a long history of hardship, and face the new threats of the future. We must do more – both because it is morally right, and because it is the only way to lead the world to peace and prosperity.

Today, I want to focus on three central issues – how we sustain and strengthen peace and democracy; how we foster economic growth and trade; and how we can help Africa fight poverty, illiteracy, and disease.

First, let us recognize that no society can reach for its dreams if it is mired in war and chaos. Tens of thousands of lives have been lost in Africa's current wars – with the greatest loss of life suffered by innocents.

Let us be clear: any area that is ungoverned by a stable and elected government, that is controlled and patrolled only by armies and armed gangs, is a haven for crime, invites more violence, and ensures more poverty.

I believe America must actively support the means for conflict resolution, and work diligently for the restoration of peace in Africa. We must continue to do our part through vital efforts such as the African Crisis Response Initiative, which is training thousands of peacekeepers from the African nations themselves. Well-trained, well-equipped African peacekeepers can and will make a crucial difference to the security and stability of the region – and the peace of the world.

Where there is war, we must work for peace; where there is peace, we must advance the birth and growth of democracy. I am not talking about elections alone, although that is an essential first step. I am talking about rule of law, independent judiciaries, a free press, open and transparent government – the kinds of institutions that give citizens real power and leverage in society.

Democracy is the best guarantor of justice and human rights. It surpasses every other system of government in producing economic growth, political stability, and effective cooperation against security threats like terrorists and drug traffickers.

In the 1990s, Africa's richest nation and its most populous nation both embraced democracy. We need to seize the day – and do more to spread freedom and democracy and advance peace and prosperity all across Africa.

Second, it is in our clear self-interest – and it is in Africa's clear self interest – for both of us to open our markets to each others products, and give Africa's businesses a better chance to sell their goods overseas.

I strongly support the African Growth and Opportunity Act, and I am grateful that the National Summit on Africa has endorsed this bill – and that the African Diplomatic Corps has unanimously called for its passage.

Let us also understand this: No matter what else we do, in many poor African nations, economic growth will not be possible unless those nations are freed from an impossible burden of debt. New democracies should not have to choose between feeding their children and paying interest on old debt. We are right to take steps to forgive the debt burden in the developing world. And we need to do more – both to support true economic reform, and to alleviate poverty.

As we enter the new economy of the 21st century, we must resolve to close a vast digital divide between the developed and developing worlds. We must help provide the infrastructure and training Africans need to take advantage of new technology and the Internet – to win their share in the new economy, so that the new era of information creates new opportunities -- not new divisions -- in the global economy.

We know that no nation can compete in the world without investing in education. And what we know here at home is also true in Africa -- education is the best anti-poverty program, the best anti-discrimination program, the best way to promote tolerance for others and inspire respect for democracy. America has a deep and vital interest in improving the quality of education for the families and communities of Africa – and we will work to give more and more Africans a 21st century education.

Finally, let us recognize that HIV/AIDS is not only a terrible human tragedy, but a crushing security crisis in Africa and across this world. The number of people who will die of AIDS in the first decade of the 21st Century will rival the number that died in all the wars in all the decades of the 20th Century.

Last month, I was honored to chair the United Nations Security Council's historic meeting on AIDS – the first Security Council meeting of the millennium and the first-ever devoted to a health issue. There I announced a \$100 million increase in our commitment to the global fight against AIDS. I also announced a new \$50 million commitment to help find, buy, and distribute life-saving vaccines in Africa and in all developing nations.

Finally, I announced that in the coming months I will convene a meeting of American business leaders active in Africa, to help make the workplace a more effective place for the education and prevention of AIDS. I will also work with them to seek more resources for this battle. I ask you to join me in that effort. If we do not confront the growing crisis of AIDS in Africa, we can never build the strong and prosperous Africa we seek.

Of course, my plan to work with business leaders underscores the point that government cannot do it all. I want to take this opportunity to salute the work of non-governmental groups, particularly the many missionary churches who have done so much in Africa to promote education, improve agriculture, provide medicine, and encourage student

exchanges. You make an immense difference in the lives of your communities. I want to commend you all and urge you to intensify your efforts.

American efforts to promote peace, democracy and prosperity in Africa are at the heart of our new security agenda for the 21st century – one grounded in our own self-interest, but uplifted by our ideals of what is right and good. Even as our efforts benefit Africa, they help America. And that is why I will never stop fighting for American engagement and investment in Africa and around the world.

Before I close my remarks, I want to mention something I personally have found very special about engaging with Africa.

Africa has accomplishments unknown to many Americans, like the ancient civilizations of Mali and the great stone structures of Zimbabwe. But just as important as Africa's accomplishments is its cultivation -- across the 3,000 ethnic groups on the continent -- of a distinctively African respect for family and community.

If the world had been wiser these past centuries, it would have taken from Africa not its valuables, but its values. We can see Africa's emphasis on family and community in most every element of everyday life – in the way they love their children, cherish their families, and respect their elders.

In Africa, it is common for a young person's school tuition to be paid not by his mother and father only, but by a dozen adults in his extended family. In Africa, it is common for adults to reach out and care for children across lines of family and parentage. In Africa, it is common to extend great respect to one's elders – to honor the wisdom that comes from experience. Indeed, one African proverb says: "When an elder dies, it is as if a whole library had burned down."

These values of family and community distinguish the African outlook. Indeed Jomo Kenyatta, the illustrious predecessor of President Moi, wrote in his book "Facing Mount Kenya": "While the Westerner asserts that character formation is the chief thing, he forgets that character is formed primarily through relations with other people."

In fact, we need to relearn and replant and nurture the values of family and community here in America; and we need to sustain and strengthen the institutions and economies that allow these values to flourish in Africa. A worldwide revival of these values may well be decisive in our efforts to face together the challenges of the new century.

Indeed, I remember six years ago talking about the power of world community with Reverend Jesse Jackson in the Market Theatre in Johannesburg. It was the eve of the Inauguration of President Mandela in 1994, and Rev. Jackson talked with me about how Americans and Africans had worked together – in solidarity – to end discrimination in America and Apartheid in South Africa.

Nearly a century ago, the leaders of the NAACP, which was founded in 1909, and the leaders of the African National Congress, which was founded in 1912, began to confer with one another about common aims. As the NAACP and the ANC pursued the cause of justice in Africa and the United States, they shared tactics and hopes, encouragement and inspiration.

I will never forget watching one of the great triumphs achieved with the help of that extended family. Ten years ago last week, early on a Sunday morning, I watched on TV with my six-year old son as Nelson Mandela walked out of his prison cell on Robben Island.

And I remember thinking how hard it is to be a parent when your kids ask you questions like “Why are people poor?” “Why is there war?” “Why is there prejudice?” But on this day, as my son watched the scene and asked me “why?” – I could say, with pride in our humanity: “because sometimes good people get together and change the world.”

We need to change the world again. And we might want to take inspiration from the words of Nelson Mandela. After he had spent more than a quarter century in captivity, you would think – on the day of his release – he might be looking forward to a rest. But this man, the day he left his prison cell, walked a short distance down a dusty road, and uttered -- in his first words of freedom:

“Now is the time to intensify the struggle. To relax our efforts now would be a mistake which generations to come will not be able to forgive.”

As we fight the long fight for greater engagement, investment, and action in Africa, let us remember his words.

Thank you. God bless you. And God bless our partners in Africa.

RECORD TYPE: PRESIDENTIAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Thomas M. Rosshirt (CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/O=OVP [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME: 1-MAR-2000 16:12:55.00

SUBJECT: two speeches that have riffs about "the future" -- Leon would like to focus on this.

TO: Matt Gobush (CN=Matt Gobush/OU=NSC/O=EOP@EOP [NSC])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

REMARKS AS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL OPENING SESSION

Monday, January 10, 2000

I call to order this first meeting of the United Nations Security Council in the 21st Century.

Let me thank the distinguished members of the Council for the honor of presiding, and for your willingness to greet the dawn of this new millennium by exploring a brand new definition of world security.

Today marks the first time, after more than 4,000 meetings stretching back more than half a century, that the Security Council will discuss a health issue as a security threat.

We tend to think of a threat to security in terms of war and peace. Yet no one can doubt that the havoc wreaked and the toll exacted by HIV/AIDS do threaten our security. The heart of the security agenda is protecting lives) and we now know that the number of people who will die of AIDS in the first decade of the 21st Century will rival the number that died in all the wars in all the decades of the 20th Century.

When 10 people in sub-Saharan Africa are infected every minute; when 11 million children have already become orphans, and many must be raised by other children; when a single disease threatens everything from economic strength to peacekeeping) we clearly face a security threat of the greatest magnitude.

This historic session not only recognizes the real and present danger to world security posed by the AIDS pandemic) which I will discuss in further detail during my remarks as head of the U.S. delegation) this meeting also begins a month-long focus by this Council on the special challenges confronting the continent of Africa. The powerful fact that we begin by concentrating on AIDS has a still larger significance: it sets a precedent for Security Council concern and action on a broader security agenda. By the power of example, this meeting demands of us that we see security through a new and wider prism, and forever after, think about it according to a new, more expansive definition.

For the past half century, the Security Council has dealt with the classic security agenda) built upon common efforts to resist aggression, and to stop armed conflict. We have witnessed wars among nations, and violence on the scale of war within nations, for many reasons:

--Because of claims of religious or racial superiority.

--Because of lust for power, disguised as ideology or rationalized as geo-strategic doctrine.

--Because of a sense that a small place or a larger region) or the whole world itself) was too small to allow for the survival and prosperity of all, unless the powerful could dominate the weak.

--Because of the tendency of too many to see themselves solely as separate groups, celebrating and defending their exclusivity, by demonizing and

dehumanizing others.

--Because of poverty, which causes the collapse of hopes and expectations, the coming apart of a society, and makes people first desperate, then freshly open to evil leadership.

But while the old threats still face our global community, there are new things under the sun -- new forces arising that now or soon will challenge international order, raising issues of peace and war. As our world enters the year 2000, it is not the change in our calendar that matters. What matters is that in this symbolic transition from old to new, we find one of those precious few moments in all of human history when we have a chance to become the change we wish to see in the world) by seeking a common agreement to openly recognize a powerful new truth that has been growing just beneath the surface of every human heart: it is time to change the nature of the way we live together on this planet. From this new vantage point, we must forge and follow a new agenda for world security, an agenda that includes:

--The global environmental challenge, which could render all our other progress meaningless, unless we deal with it successfully.

--The global challenge of defeating drugs and corruption, which now spill across our borders.

--The global challenge of terror -- magnified by the availability of new weapons of mass destruction so small they can be concealed in a coat pocket.

--The new pandemics, laying waste to whole societies, and the emergence of new strains of old diseases that are horrifyingly resistant to the anti-biotics that protected the last three generations.

Our new security agenda should be pursued with determination, adequate resources, and creative use of the new tools at the world ,s disposal that can be used to bring us together in successful common efforts) tools such as the Internet and the emerging Global Information Infrastructure) which, if used imaginatively, will enable new depths of insight and cooperation by nations, non-governmental organizations, and citizens at all levels.

Our task is not merely to recognize and confront these challenges, but to rise to our higher ideals, and work together to make our brightest dreams real in the lives of our children. In order to succeed, I believe, along with growing billions around this planet, that we must create a world where people ,s faith in their own capacity for self-governance unlocks their human potential, and justifies their growing belief that all can share in an ever-widening circle of human dignity and self-sufficiency. A world of freedom and free markets. A world where the free flow of ideas and information, and freer access to education, sustain our more fundamental freedoms. A world in which parents are free to choose the size of their families with the confidence that the children they bring into this world will survive to become healthy adults, with economic opportunity in prosperous and peaceful communities. A world where we educate girls as well as boys, and secure the rights of women everywhere, as full members of the human family.

All this and more constitutes the great global challenge of our time: to create and strengthen a sense of solidarity, as we seek a newer world of security for all) security not only from loss of life and the ravages of war, but security from constant fear and degradation, and from a loss of the quality of life and liberty of spirit that should belong to all.

If we are to succeed in addressing this new security agenda, we must recognize that because of our rapid growth in population, and the historically unprecedented power of the new technologies at our widespread disposal, mistakes which once were tolerable can now have consequences

that are multiplied many-fold.

For example, for almost all the years of recorded history, people could do whatever they wished to their environment, and do little to permanently harm it. People could wage war in the world, and do nothing to destroy it. But now, threats that were once local can have consequences that are regional or global; damage once temporary can now become chronic and catastrophic.

As a world community, we must prove to our citizens that we are wise enough to control what we have been smart enough to create. We must understand that the old conception of global security -- with its focus almost solely on armies, ideologies, and geopolitics) has to be enlarged.

We need to show that we not only can contain aggression, prevent war, and mediate conflicts, but that we can work together to anticipate and respond to a new century with its new global imperatives.

The human mind -- our ingenuity, our dreaming, our restless quest to do better) created this moment. Now the human will) not of one individual, not of one nation or group of nations) but the collective will of truly united nations, must master this moment. We must bend it in the direction of life, not death; justice, not oppression; opportunity, not deprivation) a new security for the new world we now inhabit.

The future is not something that we merely try to predict. The future is something that we make. For ourselves. Together. It is up to us to move forward -- with faith in our principles, in our foresight, and in our common humanity. The Spanish poet Antonio Machado once said: & Pathwalker, there is no path, we create the path as we walk. 8

There is great hope in this pathmaking meeting. It is an honor to open it. And my hope is that the first days and years of the millennium) and all those that follow) will be guided by the vision that marks this first meeting. We live in a new time. We face new and larger responsibilities. Meet them we can, and meet them we must) for the new threats to humanity are as grave as war itself) and the new hopes we have are as precious as peace.

Now I am pleased to present the distinguished Secretary General of the United Nations, who has given so much to the cause of peace and security, Kofi Annan.

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Today, I want to focus on three central issues) how we sustain and strengthen peace and democracy; how we foster economic growth and trade; and how we can help Africa fight poverty, illiteracy, and disease.

First, let us recognize that no society can reach for its dreams if it is mired in war and chaos. Tens of thousands of lives have been lost in Africa ,s current wars) with the greatest loss of life suffered by innocents.

Let us be clear: any area that is ungoverned by a stable and elected government, that is controlled and patrolled only by armies and armed gangs, is a haven for crime, invites more violence, and ensures more poverty.

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Let us also understand this: No matter what else we do, in many poor African nations, economic growth will not be possible unless those nations are freed from an impossible burden of debt. New democracies should not have to choose between feeding their children and paying interest on old debt. We are right to take steps to forgive the debt burden in the developing world. And we need to do more) both to support true economic reform, and to alleviate poverty.

As we enter the new economy of the 21st century, we must resolve to close a vast digital divide between the developed and developing worlds. We must help provide the infrastructure and training Africans need to take advantage of new technology and the Internet) to win their share in the new economy, so that the new era of information creates new opportunities -- not new divisions -- in the global economy.

We know that no nation can compete in the world without investing in education. And what we know here at home is also true in Africa -- education is the best anti-poverty program, the best anti-discrimination program, the best way to promote tolerance for others and inspire respect for democracy. America has a deep and vital interest in improving the quality of education for the families and communities of Africa) and we will work to give more and more Africans a 21st century education.

Finally, let us recognize that HIV/AIDS is not only a terrible human tragedy, but a crushing security crisis in Africa and across this world. The number of people who will die of AIDS in the first decade of the 21st Century will rival the number that died in all the wars in all the decades of the 20th Century.

Last month, I was honored to chair the United Nations Security Council ,s historic meeting on AIDS) the first Security Council meeting of the millennium and the first-ever devoted to a health issue. There I announced a \$100 million increase in our commitment to the global fight against AIDS. I also announced a new \$50 million commitment to help find, buy, and distribute life-saving vaccines in Africa and in all developing nations.

Finally, I announced that in the coming months I will convene a meeting of American business leaders active in Africa, to help make the workplace a more effective place for the education and prevention of AIDS. I will also work with them to seek more resources for this battle. I ask you to join me in that effort. If we do not confront the growing crisis of AIDS in Africa, we can never build the strong and prosperous Africa we seek.

Of course, my plan to work with business leaders underscores the point that government cannot do it all. I want to take this opportunity to salute the work of non-governmental groups, particularly the many

missionary churches who have done so much in Africa to promote education, improve agriculture, provide medicine, and encourage student exchanges. You make an immense difference in the lives of your communities. I want to commend you all and urge you to intensify your efforts.

American efforts to promote peace, democracy and prosperity in Africa are at the heart of our new security agenda for the 21st century) one grounded in our own self-interest, but uplifted by our ideals of what is right and good. Even as our efforts benefit Africa, they help America. And that is why I will never stop fighting for American engagement and investment in Africa and around the world.

Before I close my remarks, I want to mention something I personally have found very special about engaging with Africa.

Africa has accomplishments unknown to many Americans, like the ancient civilizations of Mali and the great stone structures of Zimbabwe. But just as important as Africa ,s accomplishments is its cultivation -- across the 3,000 ethnic groups on the continent -- of a distinctively African respect for family and community.

If the world had been wiser these past centuries, it would have taken from Africa not its valuables, but its values. We can see Africa ,s emphasis on family and community in most every element of everyday life) in the way they love their children, cherish their families, and respect their elders.

In Africa, it is common for a young person ,s school tuition to be paid not by his mother and father only, but by a dozen adults in his extended family. In Africa, it is common for adults to reach out and care for children across lines of family and parentage. In Africa, it is common to extend great respect to one ,s elders) to honor the wisdom that comes from experience. Indeed, one African proverb says: &When an elder dies, it is as if a whole library had burned down. 8

These values of family and community distinguish the African outlook. Indeed Jomo Kenyatta, the illustrious predecessor of President Moi, wrote in his book &Facing Mount Kenya 8: &While the Westerner asserts that character formation is the chief thing, he forgets that character is formed primarily through relations with other people. 8

In fact, we need to relearn and replant and nurture the values of family and community here in America; and we need to sustain and strengthen the institutions and economies that allow these values to flourish in Africa. A worldwide revival of these values may well be decisive in our efforts to face together the challenges of the new century.

Indeed, I remember six years ago talking about the power of world community with Reverend Jesse Jackson in the Market Theatre in Johannesburg. It was the eve of the Inauguration of President Mandela in 1994, and Rev. Jackson talked with me about how Americans and Africans had worked together) in solidarity) to end discrimination in America and Apartheid in South Africa.

Nearly a century ago, the leaders of the NAACP, which was founded in 1909, and the leaders of the African National Congress, which was founded in 1912, began to confer with one another about common aims. As the NAACP and the ANC pursued the cause of justice in Africa and the United States, they shared tactics and hopes, encouragement and inspiration.

I will never forget watching one of the great triumphs achieved with the help of that extended family. Ten years ago last week, early on a Sunday morning, I watched on TV with my six-year old son as Nelson Mandela walked out of his prison cell on Robben Island.

And I remember thinking how hard it is to be a parent when your kids ask

you questions like &Why are people poor? 8 &Why is there war? 8 &Why is there prejudice? 8 But on this day, as my son watched the scene and asked me &why? 8) I could say, with pride in our humanity: &because sometimes good people get together and change the world. 8

We need to change the world again. And we might want to take inspiration from the words of Nelson Mandela. After he had spent more than a quarter century in captivity, you would think) on the day of his release) he might be looking forward to a rest. But this man, the day he left his prison cell, walked a short distance down a dusty road, and uttered -- in his first words of freedom:

&Now is the time to intensify the struggle. To relax our efforts now would be a mistake which generations to come will not be able to forgive. 8

As we fight the long fight for greater engagement, investment, and action in Africa, let us remember his words.

Thank you. God bless you. And God bless our partners in Africa.

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For Immediate
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Monday, January 10,
2000

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REMARKS AS PREPARED FOR DELIVERY BY VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE
U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL SESSION ON AIDS IN AFRICA

Mr. Secretary General, Members of the Security Council, Distinguished Guests, and, in particular, Honored Delegates from the Nations of Africa:

"HIV/AIDS is not someone else's problem. It is my problem. It is your problem. By allowing it to spread, we face the danger that our youth will not reach adulthood. Their education will be wasted. The economy will shrink. There will be a large number of sick people whom the health will not be able to maintain."

Mr. Secretary and Members of the Council: These are not my words. They were not uttered in the United States or the United Nations. They were spoken by my friend, President Thabo Mbeki of South Africa, as he declared South Africa's Partnership Against AIDS more than a year ago. The same words should be spoken out not only in South Africa, not only in Africa, but all across the earth. In Africa, the scale of the crisis may be greater, the infrastructure weaker, and the people poorer, but the threat is real for every people and every nation, everywhere on earth. No border can keep AIDS out; it cuts across all the lines that divide us. We owe ourselves and each other the utmost commitment to act against AIDS on a global scale -- and especially where the scourge is greatest.

AIDS is a global aggressor that must be defeated.

As we enter the new millennium, Africa has crossed the first frontiers of momentous progress. Over the past decade, a rising wave of African nations has moved from dictatorship to democracy, embraced economic reform, opened markets, privatized enterprises, and stabilized currencies. More than half the nations of Africa now elect their own leaders -- nearly four times the number ten years ago -- and economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa has tripled, creating prospects for a higher quality of life across the continent.

Tragically, this progress is imperiled, just as it is taking hold, by the spread of AIDS which now grips 20 million Africans. Fourteen million have already died -- one quarter of them children. Each day in Africa, 11,000 more men, women, and children become HIV positive -- more than half of them under the age of 25.

For the nations of sub-Saharan Africa, AIDS is not just a humanitarian crisis. It is a security crisis -- because it threatens not just individual citizens, but the very institutions that define and defend the character of a society.

This disease weakens workforces and saps economic strength. AIDS strikes at teachers, and denies education to their students. It strikes at the

military, and subverts the forces of order and peacekeeping.

The United States is profoundly moved by the toll AIDS takes in Africa. At the same time, we know that our own country has not achieved as much as we should or must in our own battle against AIDS. I am pleased that our Surgeon General is here today; his recent report tells us that we have not overcome the ignorance and indifference that lead to infection. We must continue to study the success of others, while we seek to share our progress with them.

As Vice President, I have journeyed four times to sub-Saharan Africa. I have taken along top health officials, AIDS specialists, corporate leaders, and physicians. We have spent long hours with African leaders, heard their ideas, and discussed their difficulties with the fateful crisis of AIDS.

It is inspiring to see so many in Africa -- not only leaders, but health care workers and community workers, mothers and fathers, and countless ordinary citizens -- fighting to save the lives of the people they love. Ten years ago, Uganda was suffering the world's highest infection rates. Today -- because the whole nation has mobilized to end stigma, urge prevention, and change behavior -- Uganda is now recording dramatic drops in the infection rate. Uganda, which used to be proof of the problem, is now powerful proof that we can turn the tide against AIDS.

We know that the first line of defense against this disease is prevention. And prevention depends on breaking down the barriers against discussing the extent and risks of AIDS. That is one purpose of this historic Security Council meeting. Today, in sight of all the world, we are putting the AIDS crisis at the top of the world's security agenda. We must talk about AIDS not in whispers, in private meetings, in tones of secrecy and shame. We must face the threat as we are facing it right here, in one of the great forums of the earth -- openly and boldly, with urgency and compassion. Until we end the stigma of AIDS, we will never end the disease of AIDS.

We also must do much more to provide basic care and treatment to the growing number of people who, thank God, are living, instead of dying, with HIV and AIDS. This requires affordable medicine, but also more than medicine; it requires that we train doctors, nurses, and home-care workers, that we develop clinics and community-based organizations to deliver care to those who need it. Today, fewer than 5 percent of those living with AIDS in Africa have access to even basic care. We know we can prolong life, reduce suffering, and allow mothers with AIDS to live longer with their children, if we offer treatment for opportunistic infections like tuberculosis and malaria.

Our ultimate goal, our best hope, is to prevent AIDS by vaccination, and we are committed to the maximum possible research. But we need to do more to harness the talent and power of the private sector. In September, in his speech to the General Assembly, President Clinton said it was wrong that only two percent of all biomedical research is directed to the major killer diseases in the developing world. He pledged America to a new effort to speed the development and delivery of vaccines for AIDS, malaria, TB, and other illnesses that disproportionately afflict the poorest nations.

This three-part strategy of prevention, treatment, and research is the right fight. And the United States has contributed more than a billion dollars to wage it worldwide -- more than half of that for sub-Saharan Africa. But we must do more.

Last year, I announced the largest-ever increase in the U.S. commitment to international AIDS programs -- \$100 million to fight AIDS in Africa, India, and other areas.

Today, I announce America's decision to step up the battle. The budget the Clinton-Gore Administration will send to our Congress next month will include an additional increase of \$100 million for a total of \$325 million to fund our worldwide fight against AIDS. This new funding will include efforts:

- To reduce the stigma and prevent the spread of AIDS;
- To reduce mother-to-child transmission;
- To support home and community based care for people with AIDS;
- To provide care for children orphaned by AIDS;
- And to strengthen health infrastructure to prevent and treat of AIDS.

I would also like to announce here this morning that the budget we will send to our Congress next month will include \$50 million for the United States' contribution to the Vaccine Fund of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunizations. This contribution -- in fulfillment of the promise President Clinton made to the General Assembly -- will help fund the research, purchase, and distribution of lifesaving vaccines in developing nations.

I am also announcing today an initiative for an expanded public-private partnership in the battle against AIDS. Indeed, in the coming months, I will convene a meeting of U.S. business leaders active in Africa, to develop a set of voluntary principles for corporate conduct to make the workplace an effective place for the education and prevention of AIDS. Let us also set this goal: through public and private efforts, in partnership with partner nations, we will attack the cycle of infection at one critical point -- its most heartbreaking point -- the moment of mother-to-child transmission.

In addition, I announce that our budget request for next year will -- for the first time ever -- offer specific funding for the U.S. military to work with the armed forces of other nations to combat AIDS. Inside our own country, our armed forces have acted effectively to prevent the spread of AIDS in the military. Secretary of Defense Cohen is ready to share our experience with our military counterparts in Africa.

We are also committed to helping poor countries gain access to affordable medicines, including those for HIV/AIDS. Last month, the President announced a new approach to ensure that we take public health crises into account when applying U.S. trade policy. We will cooperate with our trading partners to assure that U.S. trade policies do not hinder their efforts to respond to health crises.

But to win the ongoing global battle against AIDS, we must also fight the poverty that speeds its spread. In June, in Cologne, we joined with our G-7 partners in the Cologne Debt Initiative, a landmark commitment to faster and deeper debt relief for the heavily-indebted poor countries.

We will continue to engage our G-7 partners to bring greater resources to this effort. Today I challenge the world's wealthier, healthier nations to match America's increasing commitment to a worldwide crusade against AIDS.

But more money is not enough. We must also make sure that more money has more impact. Next July, the global community will gather in Durban, South Africa for the 13th International AIDS Conference. There are many inspiring efforts to fight AIDS all around the world. Right now, they amount to many isolated efforts, not a single focused assault. We must knit together the separate initiatives by local, national, regional, and global organizations, to take maximum advantage of their synergy and success. We will work with the organizers of the Durban Conference to advance this essential objective. It is essential, because how we speed the money, and how effectively we target it, not just how much we spend, will determine how many lives we save.

AIDS is one of the most devastating threats ever to confront the world community. Many have called the battle against it a sacred crusade.

The United Nations was created to stop wars. Now, we must wage a great and peaceful war of our time -- the war against AIDS. For all, here and around the world, willing to enlist in this cause, let us hear and heed and take heart from the words of an African poet, Mongane Wally Serote:

"remember
the passion of our hearts
the blinding ache and pain
when we heard the hysterical sobs
of our little children crying against fate

we heard these, we knew them, we absorbed them
but we surged forward
knowing that life is a promise, and that that promise is us..."

That promise is us. We here in this room -- representing the billions of people of the world -- we must become the promise of hope and of change. We must become the promise of life itself. We have the knowledge, the compassion, and the means to make a difference. We must acknowledge our moral duty and accept our great and grave responsibility to succeed.

We must make the promise and keep the promise to prevail against this disease -- so that when the story of AIDS is told to future generations, it will be a tale not just of human tragedy but of human triumph. And the

moral of that story will be the capacity of the human spirit to summon us in common cause, to defeat a common foe, and secure the health and hopes of so many of our fellow human beings.

May God bless all who have suffered from this disease. May God bless the united effort of our united nations to end it -- soon and forever.

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